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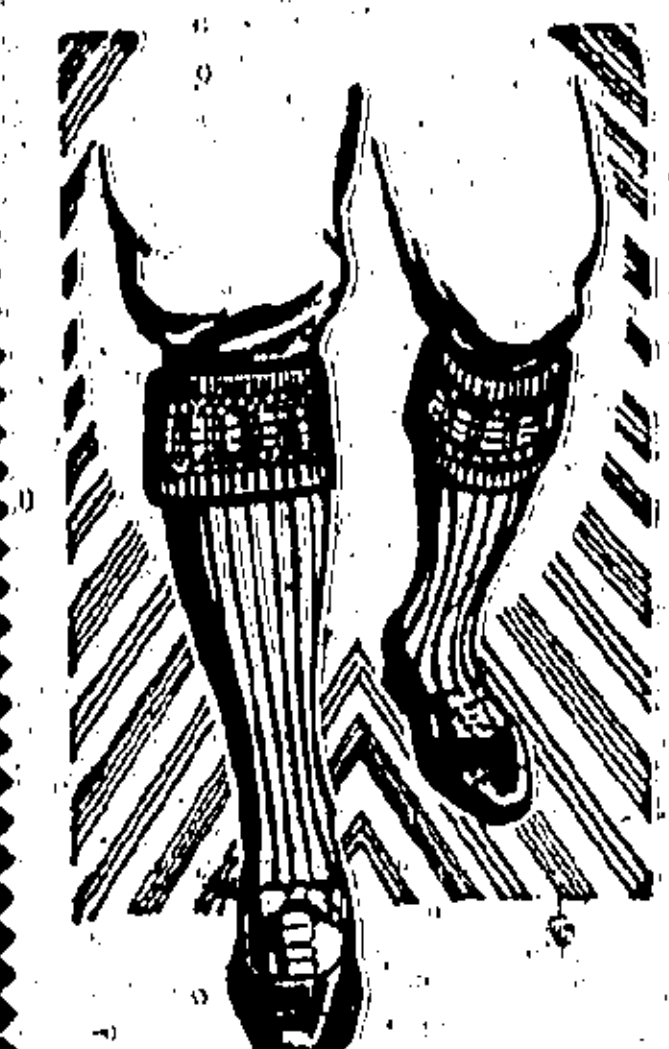
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BROKERS' WIN.

MOXON AND TAYLOR v. BANK, CASE.

TSANG'S EVIDENCE

Judge "Unable To Accept Explanation."

Judgment was given this morning for Moxon and Taylor in the case in which they claimed \$37,600 and interest for money lent to the Man-Chuen Bank. The Chief Justice referred to a "remarkable change of front" by Tsang Chun-sun, manager of the defendant bank, in maintaining for the first time in the witness box that the transaction in which he alleged G. P. and H. A. Lammert were the principals, was not one of a loan but a sale and repurchase of 200 wharves, for July settlement day.

Tsang had persisted in his statement, continued the Chief Justice, although this attention was called to the course adopted by his counsel with respect to the nature of this transaction, in spite of the statement in his (the witness's) own declaration in which he referred to the transaction as a loan and in spite of a similar description appearing in a letter signed by him and acknowledging indebtedness to G. P. and H. A. Lammert.

When pressed in cross-examination to explain these apparent discrepancies, witness had asserted that he was much troubled at the time he made the declaration and that as regards the letter acknowledging his indebtedness to G. P. and H. A. Lammert, it had not been correctly explained to him and he had not had it translated.

"Getting Over Difficulty."
"Mr. Tsang is an experienced business man and I regret that I am unable to accept the explanation given by him," the Chief Justice said. "The Chief Justice, and later he added that he thought Mr. Tsang's assertion that the transaction was in the nature of a sale and repurchase and not a loan was an attempt to get over a certain difficulty. G. P. and H. A. Lammert owed \$13,000 to the defendant bank at the time that the transaction with which the action was concerned was put through. The very serious point arose if the transaction was in the nature of a loan why did not the defendant insist on applying \$13,000 out of the \$37,600 alleged to have been paid to them by G. P. and H. A. Lammert, to clearing off the indebtedness of the latter to them."

With regard to the defendant's claim that their failure to insist on their right of repayment from G. P. and H. A. Lammert was due to the fact that the securities held by them on account of the \$13,000 debt had fallen in value, it had only to be stated to be refuted, said the Chief Justice. If the defendants had been repaid this amount on June 6 they would presumably have handed over the securities held by them in respect of it to Messrs. Lammert. In that case, there would have been no sale and the securities would have depreciated no more in the hands of Lammerts than they did in the hands of the defendants.

Mr. Jenkin's Allegation.
His Lordship then turned to certain allegations made by the defendants' counsel. Mr. Jenkin had claimed that this inexplicable change of front on the part of Tsang was at least paralleled by one that occurred in the case of the plaintiffs. He pointed out that in Mr. Ross's affidavit, and in a letter written by plaintiffs' solicitors, G. P. and H. A. Lammert had been referred to as agents of the plaintiffs. In view of this fact, Mr. Jenkin argued that the case as presented by the plaintiffs in court was totally unexpected and that if this change was not dishonest it was at least open to the gravest suspicion.

Judge's Disagreement.
"I am unable to draw this inference," said His Lordship. "Chan Wing-fook (agent of G. P. and H. A. Lammert) was present in the minds of all concerned as the principal witness for the plaintiffs in the case, and his account of the transaction given in his declaration is in substantial accord with the evidence he gave in the witness box."

ELECTION TIME.

NOT AS NOTICEABLE AS BEFORE.

TO-DAY'S VOTING.

Although Hongkong is in the throes of an election (for the vacancy on the Sanitary Board) there does not seem to be much outward excitement. Polling is from 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. to-day, at the Supreme Court. The candidates are Dr. M. Graca Ozorio and Dr. Ho Shun-choi (S.C. Ho). An old resident told a "China Mail" reporter about the car processions and other forms of publicity when the late Mr. A. R. Lowe sought representation of the unofficial Justices of the Peace on the Legislative Council. The number of electors was very small indeed but Mr. Lowe went about things in a spirited manner. All that has been noticeable this time is the issue of addresses and the "party placards" here and there.

It is to be hoped that the candidates' managers will put on something later in the afternoon when the weather may clear.

Mr. Tsang had further stated that the indebtedness of Messrs. G. P. and H. A. Lammert was the subject of frequent discussion between him and Chan after the July settlement day, and he stated that before he signed the letter acknowledging the Bank's indebtedness the matter was also raised then. It was put to him that if he claimed to set off the debt owing from G. P. and H. A. Lammert against the sum mentioned in the letter it was very remarkable that he should have signed a clear acknowledgment of his indebtedness to Lammerts and not to have insisted on notice being taken in that document of G. P. and H. A. Lammert's indebtedness to the Bank.

Tsang states that he refrained from so doing because the purpose of the meeting was only to obtain acknowledgment that the money was owing to G. P. and H. A. Lammert from the defendants and not from Tsang himself, also because Chan assured him that when the amount owing from the defendants to Lammerts was due, the cross-debt would be taken into consideration. Confidence in Chan.
Chan Wing-fook, and in this he is supported by Mr. H. A. Lammert (who knows Chinese well) asserts that nothing was said on October 6 about defendants' cross debt or any set off. Having regard to the inherent probabilities of the matter, said His Lordship, and to the doubt I have already expressed as to the reliability of Mr. Tsang with regard to his evidence in another part of the case, I have no hesitation in accepting the version of Mr. Chan as to what actually occurred on that day.

Book Entries.
"My attention has already been called to the manner in which entries in connection with the amount claimed were entered in the books of plaintiffs," continued His Lordship. Counsel for defendants argued that these entries were more consistent with the case put forward on behalf of defendants than that of the plaintiffs.

"Prima facie that might be so but there was evidence that loans are entered in brokers' books in that way. The fact that the books showed sales of the shares in question and immediate repurchase at a higher rate and at a figure not obtainable from purchasers in the open market appears to me, said His Lordship, to bear out the contention of the plaintiffs that the transaction was a loan and not a sale and repurchase."

Tsang's "Unreliability."
"I hold," said His Lordship, "that the evidence of Mr. Chan is in all substantial matters worthy of belief and I cannot rely on the evidence of Mr. Tsang where it is in conflict with that of Mr. Chan. The part of the evidence of the former on which I can rely appears to me to bear out the case for the plaintiffs and judgment is therefore given for them for \$37,600 and \$1,504 agreed interest from June 6 to November 6, but the remaining period to the date of the judgment interest to be at the rate of 8 per cent."

KOWLOON WATER.

FULL SERVICE TO BE RESUMED.

THE ISLAND SUPPLY.

The heavy rainfall has solved the water problem so far as Kowloon residents are concerned and the "China Mail" is informed by the water authority that restrictions will be taken off as from tomorrow.

Matters are not so favourable as regards water stored in the reservoirs in Hongkong and for the next few days at any rate it will not be possible to resume an unrestricted river main service.

RENT OF FLAT.

JUDGMENT IN FAVOUR OF MR. BROOK.

\$106.45 AWARDED.

Judgment was given this morning in favour of Mr. J. Brook, of the Vacuum Oil Co., in respect of his claim for \$100 rent from Mr. H. K. Lee, the flat in question being at Morrison Hill Road.

Mr. Justice Wood dealt with the point raised by the defendant as to there having been no written contract. "In my view," said His Honour, "a contract for a monthly tenancy which contains no further definition of the term of tenancy does not require to be supported by a memorandum in writing. His Honour pointed out that it was not until the first day that the tenancy agreed on began that the defendant wrote a letter claiming the right to repudiate the contract if on inspection he could find reason for complaint of the furniture provided. "The claim 'seems to me,' said His Honour, "to have been made rather too late to be effective."

His Lordship also found for the plaintiff in respect of two days in March in which the flat had been unoccupied, the total amount allowed being \$106.45.

STEAMER SEIZED.

WEST RIVER BOATS ALLEGED OPIUM.

FIGHT AT BOCCA TIGRIS.

Alleged to have been engaged in the transport of opium, the Canton-Wuchow steamer "Wa Hing" has been seized by the Chinese authorities.

Last week, she cleared from Wuchow with cargo and passengers. When near Shuihui (one of the upper West River ports) she was examined and it is reported, raw opium was found in the holds, among the cargo.

The "Wa Hing" was subsequently reported to be tied up alongside the Canton preventive service pier. Four of the smaller vessels in the Canton Navy are reported to have seized a number of small craft near Bocca Tigris.

It is not known from the report whether the expedition was sent against smugglers, or pirates. After a fight lasting an hour or so, the outlaws fled, leaving behind a few casualties. Arms, general merchandise, etc. were found in the boats left behind.

EX-CANTON GOVERNOR.

Mr. Hu Han-min, former Governor of Canton, who went to Moscow after one of last year's coups, is reported to have arrived at Vladivostok on March 26, on his return to Canton (via Shanghai).

A case of small pox and two cases of enteric fever were notified during the week-end. All the patients were Chinese.

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2/3 1/2.

COFFIN MYSTERY.

STYLING AND CORE OF RATTAN.

BUT NO CONTRABAND.

A large and abnormally heavy coffin which arrived on Saturday led local police officers to suspect that contraband had been concealed within a human corpse.

There were two coffins on the steamer—one large and the other small—both of Chinese who had died while seeking their fortunes abroad. They were en route for Waichow, for burial.

The larger coffin was opened for examination. First of all there were two separate layers of rattan coils. Then came a hermetically sealed cover of thinning, just as in a case of piecegoods or other cargo. When the thinning was opened, the corpse was found securely packed inside.

Subsequent inquiries revealed that all this special packing was merely to conform with regulations at the port of shipment. A good many Chinese there send their dead back to be buried with the ancestors. Inconvenience—not to use any stronger term—has been caused on shipboard by "insecure packing" hence the necessity for laying down airtight coffins.

CANTON CUSTOMS.

MERCHANTS INTERVIEW THE COMMISSIONER.

EXAMINATION METHODS.

Four representatives of Canton (Chinese) merchants are reported to have interviewed Col. Hayley Bell, Commissioner of Customs, on the procedure adopted for examination of goods.

The delegation is said to have sought a change in the procedure of examination, whereby goods can be placed in the Customs shed in larger quantities.

The request is stated to have been turned down.

HONGKONG WEATHER.

During the 24 hours ended at 10 a.m. to-day, the Observatory only recorded 1.35 inches of rain. The total for the year is 14.36 inches of rain. The total for the year is 14.56 inches, against an average of 7.89 inches.

The weather forecast till noon to-morrow reads:—

South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamcocks; and Hongkong to Gap Rock: E. or variable winds, moderate; overcast, occasional rain.

South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan: S.E. winds, moderate.

Formosa Channel: N.W. winds, moderate.

WANTON MISCHIEF.

For the second time in one week an attempt by some person to set fire to the shop premises at No. 52, D'Almeida Street, ground floor, was tried yesterday afternoon.

According to a report made by a cop, he was in the rear portion of the floor when he noticed flames inside the shop. On investigation he found that paper soaked in kerosene had been set alight and inserted through a hole in the stairway.

A Chinese police sergeant was summoned and he put the fire out.

Owing to the heavy rains three Janildes have occurred at the Peak, these being at Plunkett Road, Mount Kellett and Craigmin Road. Traffic, however, has not been affected.

Captain Cardew, of the R.A. driving his car near the Talkoo drive yesterday, knocked down a small girl who ran out from the path of a train car. The girl was slightly injured and received \$5 as compensation.

ROBBERY PLANNED?

AN OPEN DOOR AT CHINA BUILDING.

DETECTIVES FIND.

Recently the scene of a big burglary and the hiding place for loot, the China Building receives special attention from Police detectives at night time.

In a systematic inspection from floor to floor at 1 o'clock this morning, the suspicions of a detective were aroused when he found a door on the first floor open. The premises were the dress-making establishment of Mrs. Weill.

The place was kept under guard by the police until this morning when Mrs. Weill looked over her stock and found that nothing had been stolen. A robbery was possibly averted by the fortunate discovery made by the detectives in the course of their rounds.

BEGGAR NUISANCE.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE POLICE.

TWO PROSECUTIONS.

A Chinese was charged at the Central Magistracy this morning with begging at Lee House Street on Saturday.

The methods employed by the man to enlist sympathy was described by Sergeant Hill, who said defendant pointed to a hole in his jacket through which it was alleged all his money amounting to twenty cents had slipped out. A search, however, brought to light twenty-five cents hidden in another pocket. It was stated that at this stage a European lady approached the witness and informed him that she had been continually molested by the defendant for many days.

A fine of \$5 was imposed. A Chinese with one leg was the defendant in a case at Kowloon when it was stated that owing to the man's disability he had been provided with a hawking licence out of the poor box funds, but he persisted in begging on the streets. The Magistrate made an example by sending defendant to prison for seven days.

YOUTH'S OFFENCE.

A GIRL ENTICED FROM HER HOME.

POLICE COURT CASE.

A Chinese youth was charged before Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Central Magistracy this morning with kidnapping and harboring a girl of 16.

Mr. R. A. C. North, of the S.C.A., outlined his case which was that the defendant, who was a motor car driver, became acquainted with the girl through her friends, gave her a ride in his master's car, and took her to a cubicle he occupied in a house in the western district, where they lived together when found by the detectives. For the defence, Mr. A. J. O'Donoghue submitted that the defendant acted in an ignorant manner and had since paid \$100 to the girl's mother as compensation. The Magistrate ordered the money to be returned to the defendant and fined him \$150.

RUBBER DIVIDENDS.

We are indebted to Messrs. Carroll Bros. for the following information:—

The dividends mentioned below have just been declared. Bhit Timahs—8 per cent. Final making 12 per cent. for the year. Teluk Anson—15 per cent. Final making 25 per cent. for the year. New Serendahs—15 per cent. Final making 35 per cent. for the year.

Messrs. Carroll Bros. also report the following sales made to Hongkong:—Alfonbays \$3.25, Ayer Panas \$14.40, Bassett's \$1.50, Glenavoy \$3, Serams \$1.70, and New Serendahs \$4.70 sum dividend.

During the week-end a wolf hound belonging to the manager of the A.P.C. installation at Talkoo was taken to Kennedy Town for observation. The animal bit a signaller of the Royal Engineers. Another case was reported from Kowloon City, a woman being sent to the Kwong Wah Hospital and the dog to Kennedy Town.

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A GREAT RECORD.

TRIBUTES TO H.K. CIVIL SERVICE.

ANNUAL DINNER.

Cricketers Entertain At V.D.C. Headquarters.

Volunteer Headquarters presented a festive appearance on Saturday night for the annual dinner of the Hongkong Civil Service Cricket Club, flags and plants being used to good effect and about 80 members and guests sitting down to flower bedecked tables.

The Honourable Mr. Justice J. R. Wood, President of the Club, presided and among those present were Mr. A. E. Wood, Mr. C. D. Melbourne (Vice-Presidents), Mr. F. J. de Rome (Capt. 1st XI), Mr. H. Edmonds (Chairman of Committee), Mr. G. R. Sayer, Sir H. C. Gollan, Hon. Sir Henry Pollock, K.C., Hon. Sir Shou-sen Chow, Hon. Mr. C. Mel. Messer, Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, Hon. Mr. H. T. Creasy, Mr. W. W. Hornell, E.L.T., Mr. R. S. Vergette (Hon. Secretary) and Capt. Steele, M.C. (A. D. C. to H. E. the Governor).

Following the submission of the toast of the King, Sir Henry Pollock, K.C. proposed the toast of the H.K. C.S.C.C. and expressed his pleasure at being present and said he was pleased to propose the toast. "During more than thirty-eight years' residence in the Colony, he had always conceived the greatest admiration for the members of the Civil Service. They had a great record in the Colony of three generations of service and it might be said that during that time they had very consistently maintained the traditions of the British Civil Service and their integrity and constant attention to the permanent interests of the Colony had been of the utmost service to all. Their strict impartiality of all races had won the admiration of everyone (applause on the part of the guests).

Club Records.

Sir Henry congratulated the Club on winning the cricket club shields of both divisions in 1925, a fact that had recently been brought to his notice. He confessed that he had never been able to play the game of cricket himself when he was at school at Charterhouse, because he had always suffered from shortsightedness. One thing that was wanted in cricket was good sight. The smallest kind of ball he found he could do anything with. He once nearly succeeded in getting into the House XI.

Sir Henry confessed to knowing little about their club but it must be a source of great satisfaction to them to know that they had done so well in the 1925 season. He noticed that in the past season the Club had not lost a single match (applause) and he hoped that in future seasons they would do equally as well. He noticed they did play a game he also played—and that was lawn bowls. It was a very excellent game if it did not forget where the "bins" was. He understood they were entering the "B" division of the Bowls league and hoped that the bowlers players would give a good account of themselves.

In proposing the toast of the club, Sir Henry coupled with it the name of His Honour Mr. Justice J. R. Wood, President of the Club.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

President's Reply.

Replying, Mr. Justice Wood said that this was practically the only occasion in the year in which the Civil Service met together as a whole on a social footing. It was the hope of the Committee that this dinner would have been memorable by the presence of His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency had promised to attend and address the gathering but unfortunately his doctor had intervened and they could only hope that another opportunity would present itself next year.

In addition to a letter of regret at inability to attend from H.E. the Governor, letters had also been received, said Mr. Wood, regretting non-attendance from Major-General C. C. Luard, G.O.C. Commodore Stirling, the Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall, and the Hon. Mr. D. W. Traiman.

To his mind, added Mr. Wood, he had always found it difficult to dissociate Sir Henry Pollock from the Civil Service. Sir Henry had had far longer service in the Colony than the C.S. cricket club. Sir Henry was a law officer of the Crown, the New Territories having then recently been leased from China when he (the speaker) first arrived in the Colony. When the crisis overtook us last summer, Sir Henry again rendered excellent service in the Colony's interests.

The Absent List.

Continuing, the President said that since the last dinner the Club had lost their late President, Sir Claude Severn, through his retirement last Autumn. Sir Claude was, he thought, always more of a member of the Club than a President. Sir Claude knew them all and he signalled his departure by arranging a cricket match in which he captained his side and had enough breath and good humour left to make a speech at the end. (Laughter and applause).

Another name appeared among the list of officers no longer with the club—that was the name of their Vice-President, Mr. R. E. O. Bird. Mr. Bird was for over twenty years one of their most successful schoolmasters in the Colony. The "Stork" was better known to them later as the "grand old man of cricket" and was always a tower of strength to their side. The speaker was in touch with Mr. Bird recently and understood that he was at present enjoying himself at Nice.

The Club did not always take the Shield but they very seldom entered at the beginning of the season without a good fighting chance of coming through. (Hear, hear). No Civil Servant who was worth his salt was now found playing for outside teams (Applause).

The speaker went on to refer to the activities of the club in regard to lawn bowls and tennis. Referring to the tennis league, Mr. Wood said it had been unable to carry out its programme last year. Members were then cooking their own "mutton chops" and that was why they were unable to win the shield last year. (Laughter). He liked to remember that the Hongkong tennis league which had done so much for sport in the Colony originated in the mind of one of their old members, Mr. A. O. Brown, a member of the club's committee. (Applause). Mr. Brown was a member whose mind worked in secret but unlike many other minds its results were worthy of the effort.

The speaker said he had to confess that lawn bowls was an unexplored country to him. Sir Henry Pollock had the advantage of him there. He realised that the game of lawn bowls was played under ideal conditions and within comparatively easy reach of the bar. (Laughter). He had watched the game and was satisfied that for skill and excitement and sociability it was surpassed by no other game. (Applause). He hoped that the bowls section would do well in the coming season.

Club House Improvements.

Referring to the Club House, the President said that at the last annual general meeting, authority was given to the incoming committee to withdraw from the reserve sum a certain sum to carry out improvements in respect of the Club House. The Secretary had informed him that these improvements were now completed to everyone's satisfaction and had been carried out at a cost of \$1,700. It was hoped that with this expenditure, it would be possible to close the year's accounts with the original reserve still intact.

At the present time there were 239 members of the club, including 40 subscribers on their old list. It was calculated, by those who knew that if they "polled" their old constituency they ought to count on having 350 members. He expressed the hope that new members would join the club in large numbers.

With regard to the future, it had not come yet. They were still waiting for the removal of Morrison Hill. (Laughter). They had suffered a close bombardment for several months and now fortunately the range was getting longer and that gave them the hope that at some time they would be faced with an emergency—the emergency being that of building new premises. When they came to meet this emergency he hoped they would be in a position to erect a new club with accommodation for 300 members.

Activities Reviewed.

Mr. F. J. de Rome, as captain of the club, gave an excellent review of the activities of the club and points of the members and said that although a number of them were old stagers they were still prepared to carry on and attempt to win the cricket shield next year. Although the 1st XI had not lost a match this season, some of the drawn matches would, he thought, have been won but for to dissociate Sir Henry Pollock from the Civil Service. Sir Henry had had far longer service in the Colony than the C.S. cricket club.

Mr. H. Edmonds, as captain of the "A" team, also referred to the Colony than the C.S. cricket club. Sir Henry was a law officer of the Crown, the New Territories having then recently been leased from China when he (the speaker) first arrived in the Colony. When the crisis overtook us last summer, Sir Henry again rendered excellent service in the Colony's interests.

PARTY STRUGGLE.

CANTON GOVERNMENT'S FIAT.

SHANGHAI INDIGNATION.

Reports that the Canton Government has ordered the arrest of all members of the Kuomintang attending the conference of conservatives being held in Shanghai have caused considerable indignation in Shanghai, the stronghold of the conservatives and the residence of many foundation members of the party formerly headed by the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

This is the latest development in the struggle between the "Reds" and "Whites" for mastery of the party. For some time, the branch between the two sections has been widening and there are now two sections, one holding radical views, controlled from Canton, and the other holding conservative views, controlled from Shanghai where the right section is trying to maintain its influence.

Recently, a conference was opened in Shanghai where delegates from 25 branches attended and resolutions denouncing the Communists and urging their expulsion were passed.

About 20 conservative members, who attended the conference held in Route Vallon recently held a meeting last Monday to consider the report that the Canton Government has issued an order instructing that all members who attend the conference at Shanghai are to be arrested.

Mr. Hsia Chi, former councillor to Dr. Sun Yat-sen, presided and voiced the section's indignation at the latest fiat of the Canton Government to Bolshevize the party.

After discussion, it was decided to send telegrams to General Chiang Kai-shek, the new dictator in Canton, and Mr. Wang Ching-wei, head of the party, asking them whether the report is correct, and in the meantime, to abandon the proposal that the conference be transferred to Canton in order to attempt to bridge the difficulties splitting the party.

CARNIVAL DANCES.

The Royal Engineers and warrant officers mess brought their dancing season to a successful conclusion on Saturday night with a carnival at the Royal Engineers Theatre, Wellington Barracks.

A pleasant time was spent by dancers at the Repulse Bay Hotel on Saturday night when there was an excellent attendance for the carnival despite the weather.

A marriage will shortly take place between Donald Francis Povey, Miss. Doc. Reid Professor of Music, Edinburgh University, and Clara Georgina Wallace, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Richard Wallace, East India merchant.

name of Mr. Hornell, Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Mr. Hornell replied in a very able speech punctuated with humour throughout. Mr. Hornell mentioned that he thought cricket was a game which brought out the best in everyone. There was something in it which brought out British character. Cricket was a game in which co-operation was shown and in which even the spectators could share in the spirit of camaraderie and lack of racial distinction.

Sir Show-sen Chow.

The Hon. Sir Show-sen Chow caused much amusement by referring to his tribulations in the realms of sport and throwing down the gauntlet to any who would like to take him on at boxing! He was afraid that the result would be that there would be two knocks—one against him and one against the floor. (Laughter).

Mr. "Dick" Hancock also spoke and replied to Mr. de Rome's remarks regarding last season's performance, stating that Mr. E. C. Fincher, a player whose name Mr. de Rome had specially mentioned as being among players who should be given a chance for interport cricket, would be given every opportunity in the trial matches in October.

Mr. P. T. Lambie proposed the health of the President to which Mr. Wood suitably replied.

Proceedings concluded with the National anthem.

The dinner committee consisted of the following: Mr. P. T. Lambie (Chairman), Mr. H. Rose, Mr. J. P. Gregory, Mr. J. Deacon, Mr. B. E. Maughan (Hon. Treasurer) and Mr. R. S. Vergette (Hon. Secretary).

KOWLOON MATTERS.

PLENTY BEFORE K.R.A. MEETING.

EDUCATION REPORT.

The second meeting of the new Committee of the Kowloon Residents' Association was held on Friday night, the Rev. J. H. Johnson presiding.

All the members, with the exception of two were present.

Telephone Connection.

Correspondence was first dealt with, after which the Secretary (Mr. J. L. Parnen) stated on the question of connecting Mongkok police station with the public telephone that he had been advised that it was hoped to have this done matter had been recommended to the Colonial Treasury.

Government Secrecy.

Mr. B. Wylie, who has represented the K.R.A. on the Education Board, was present by special request in order that he might report to the committee before leaving for Home. His report was private and confidential because the meetings of the Board have latterly been held in camera.

The Committee, whilst fully appreciating the advantages gained by holding the meetings in private, was nevertheless of the opinion that the general interests of the community would be better served in Kowloon and elsewhere by giving publicity to the discussion.

It was resolved that the Government be asked to consider the advisability of the meetings of the Board of Education to be held in public in the future.

Playground Matters.

The Children's Playground Sub-Committee reported that they had elected to apply to the Government for the plot of railway ground next to Holt's Wharf as the extension to the Children's playground in Chatham road and had requested that a further set of swings, saws, etc. should be erected there.

It was explained that the piles of railway material at present on the ground would be fenced off.

A schedule of suggested rules and regulations for the children's playground, received from the Captain Superintendent of Police, was referred to the Sub-Committee.

The attention of the Committee was drawn to the fact that the plot of waste ground adjoining the Diocesan Girls' School which had formerly been used by the Chinese as a common recreation ground was shortly to be enclosed and appropriated to the use of the students of the school.

As it was felt that those who had been accustomed to using the ground would feel the loss of it, the sub-Committee was asked to try to find some other place for such as had been in the habit of using the ground to get their recreation, a bit of vacant land near Homantin being suggested for their consideration.

Nathan Road Corner.

Acknowledgment of the Association's letter regarding the straightening of Nathan Road, at the Po Hing Theatre was reported to have been received and it was gratifying to note that the question was being reconsidered and the work apparently progressing.

Kowloon Hospital Complaint.

A letter of complaint respecting Kowloon Hospital was read and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Health on the subject.

Ferry Pier Alterations.

The sub-committee to which the Star Ferry wharf alterations had been referred for consideration and report, submitted a sketch in which were embodied a number of further matters which they wished to recommend.

It was agreed to approve the company's scheme in its main outline but to suggest that it be modified to include other improvements recommended by the Sub-Committee.

Ginger and Water.

Owing to the lateness of the hour, it was found impossible to complete the business on the agenda and it was decided to call an extraordinary committee meeting this week to deal with the matters left over, which include a letter from the Preserved Ginger Manufacturers' Association, complaining of the effect on their trade of the water restrictions in Kowloon.

The Bus Service.

The question of the bus service in Kowloon which was referred to at the previous meeting, will also come up for discussion and correspondence on the subject will be submitted.

Public Spirit.

The Committee again wish to state their willingness to receive communications from residents expressing their views on all questions affecting the welfare of the community—such communications may be addressed to any officer of the Association or to P.O. Box 844.

OUT OF DATE.

C. J. AND OUR DEBTOR LAWS.

SATURDAY'S CASES.

"We are hopelessly out of date in our Ordinances as applied to bankruptcy," said His Lordship, Sir H. C. Gollan, Chief Justice, sitting in Bankruptcy proceedings on Saturday.

His remarks arose out of the Wing Hing Bank case in respect of which the Official Receiver spoke with reference to an application for adjudication.

A misunderstanding had arisen, said the Official Receiver. A creditors' meeting had been held at which Mr. Chau Ngan-ting, comrade of the P. and O. Bank, had been unanimously appointed trustee. He (the Official Receiver) understood that Mr. Chau was willing to serve although the latter had not been present at the meeting. He had since seen Mr. Chau who had told him that all he had signed his willingness to do was to act as a sort of treasurer to receive money but he had not the time to devote to full trustee work.

It was impossible even to adjudicate, said the Official Receiver, as there was another difficulty. He had never really fully realised before that the appointment of a trustee under section 21 of our local Ordinances must take place before adjudication and there was no machinery under the Ordinance for the appointment of a trustee after the debtor had been adjudicated bankrupt.

His Lordship: We are hopelessly out of date in our legislation. The Official Receiver: I realise that more and more. Almost every day I come across instances of it.

His Lordship asked on what our Ordinance was based and was told it was taken from the early bankruptcy laws in England but three-quarters of the English law seemed to be left out, commented the Official Receiver.

His Lordship: The English enactment is the result of experience extending over years and years with falsities in previous acts remedied in the light of experience. The existing act is as near-perfect as it can possibly be. I have had many years' experience of drafting and have found that it never does to leave out even a word.

More Inadequacy.

The local Ordinance led to comment again in the next case.

Mr. O'Donoghue represented one of the creditors of Pang Chick, described as trading as Luen On Co.

The Official Receiver asked for adjudication but Mr. O'Donoghue maintained that public examination should precede this. Creditors had had no opportunity of examining or cross-examining debtor as he had not been present at the creditors' meeting. There were one or two things they were particularly anxious to obtain information on. One was the reason for debtor stating that he traded under the name of the Luen On company whilst last month and the month before he had described himself as the managing partner. Information as to the partnership was wanted.

The Official Receiver stated that it was difficult if not impossible to examine a bankrupt on matters which might be to his detriment without first having handled the administration of the estate.

Such being the case, he thought that adjudication should precede the public examination.

His Lordship commented that in England public examination always preceded adjudication but so long as Mr. O'Donoghue was given a guarantee that an examination would, in fact, be held he thought the case would have been met.

The Official Receiver: The practice obtaining in Hongkong has been extraordinary loose with regard to public examinations; in fact in many cases they have not been held at all.

His Lordship: That, of course, is to stop. Public examination is one of the most important steps in bankruptcy.

The Official Receiver concurred and said that undoubtedly in this case an examination would be held.

Optimism and Pessimism.

Mr. Nash (representing the debtor Kwong Sui-yun, trading as the Universal Electric Co.) spoke of \$15,000 assets against \$19,000 liabilities when this case came under consideration. He asked for a receiving order.

The Official Receiver said he must oppose the application. Practically the whole of the book debts included in Mr. Nash's figure would have to be written off as bad debts; he stated. As regarded the contract with a large Chinese restaurant he thought there was little hope of recovery of the \$9,200 owed, as the restaurant were themselves in difficulty and had informed him (the Official Receiver) that their only hope of paying was success of an application for benefit under the local trade loan. This in fact, it was understood, would not be granted.

Up-Country Cinema.

As regarded another book debt, said the Official Receiver, it was in respect of a cinematograph undertaking in Hoihow and it had closed down over a year ago. There was little or no hope of recovery.

The Official Receiver agreed with Mr. Nash that the position

LAUGHTER AND DIGESTION.

There is a curious relation between the emotions and the processes of digestion. The old joking axiom, "Laugh and grow fat," is based on the common sense of age-long experience. It is a scientific fact also that sudden grief or fright will instantly arrest digestion and the functions of the stomach will not be resumed until the unusual emotion has subsided.

The truth is that the stomach needs a good supply of rich red blood to properly perform its duty and if the supply is called away to the brain digestion stops.

If you worry and think about your troubles at meal time you are on the road to indigestion and the more you do it the more troubles you will have to think about. Laughter is an aid to digestion but plenty of rich blood is a necessity.

That being the case, the first thing to do in dyspepsia or indigestion, especially called nervous dyspepsia, is to build up the blood.

To build up the blood there is nothing better than Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people. The tone up the entire system, make the blood rich and red, strengthen the nerves, increase the appetite, put colour in the cheeks and lips and drive away that unnatural tired feeling. Plenty of sunlight, good wholesome food and fresh air will do the rest. Your chemist supplies Dr. Williams' pink pills, or post free, \$1.50 per bottle, \$3 for six bottles, from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 80 Kingsway Road, Shanghai.

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SATURDAY'S DELUGE FIGURES.

THE WATER PROBLEM.

Saturday's rainfall, whilst falling far short of anything, in the nature of a record, was sufficiently heavy to interfere with all outdoor recreation and necessitate for most a day indoors.

Huge pools collected in the public thoroughfares and the Queen's Road—Pecker Street corner was made worse in consequence of the pipe laying in progress there.

Kowloon residents are hoping that the reservoir storage will have been heightened sufficiently to allow of the water restrictions being taken off.

Actually, 4.48 inches of rain fell between midnight and 6 p.m. on Saturday and whilst this would be considered somewhat phenomenal at Home, the deluge of over two years ago when 16 inches fell in 24 hours will be sufficiently vivid in most people's imagination to dispense with any comparison.

of the debtor company was due to genuine misfortune. He had nothing against the debtor but, as he thought, were not sufficient to justify a receiving order.

Mr. Nash thought the Official Receiver was taking too pessimistic a view of the situation, and that there was every reason to believe that the restaurant debt would be paid.

The Official Receiver said that if Mr. Nash had had the opportunity of seeing the solicitor's letter setting out the affairs of the restaurant company in applying for a loan, he would not take such an optimistic view.

His Lordship, commenting that if the Official Receiver had taken a too pessimistic view he thought Mr. Nash had taken a too optimistic one, said that the petition would be dismissed.

Absconding Partner.

A receiving order was made in respect of the Tai Yat Lau tea house, upon the manager of the Ho Yan firm, of 4 Lower Lascar Row, proving indebtedness to the sum of \$2,000 and stating that the partner in the tea house had absconded. Assets were stated to be \$5,000 and liabilities, \$17,000.

Allegations Withdrawn?

Permission to proceed with the sale of the goodwill of the Wing Shin-shun was given the Official Receiver on an assurance that Mr. E. S. C. Brooks (Hastings, Denny and Bowley) had no further instructions with regard to an alleged bogus sale and doubts as to the correctness of certain assets and liabilities entries.

A Sleeping Partner.

Application for a receiving order made by Mr. E. S. C. Brooks in respect of the Yau Hing Ching Kee firm was refused owing to one of the partners not being available.

Mr. Brooks said that the other partner was in America and was only a sleeping partner. If the petitioner was refused in respect of the firm, could it not be granted in respect of the one partner who had signed? he asked.

His Lordship said he could not accede to the request as it would be an irregular procedure.



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MEXICO MARU	Friday, 16th April
CAIRO MARU	Via Singapore and Bangkok
SEATTLE MARU	Sunday, 18th April
NAUKU MARU	Tuesday, 20th May
VICTORIA MARU	Thursday, 22nd May
ARIZONA MARU (From Shanghai)	Thursday, 23rd May
YOKOHAMA MARU	Friday, 24th May
HAQUE MARU (From Keelung)	Thursday, 23rd April
JAPAN FORT MARU	Monday, 3rd May
CELEBES MARU	Wednesday, 5th May
INDUS MARU	Saturday, 8th May
CHUNG MARU	Via Swatow & Amoy
HOZAN MARU	Sunday, 11th Apr., at Noon
KAISO MARU	Sunday, 18th Apr., at Noon
YAKO MARU	Via Swatow & Amoy
KOBE MARU	Thursday, 22nd Apr., at 10 a.m.
TAI HO MARU	Friday, 23rd Apr.
KOHO MARU	Saturday, 24th Apr.
SAIKO MARU	Via Chefoo and Whangtau
NIITO MARU	Saturday, 16th April

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"KALYAN"	9,144	20th April	Milos, Volo, L'don, Antwerp & Hull
"ALFONSO"	8,273	27th April	Singapore, Penang, Col'bo & Bombay
"MAEDONIA"	11,089	1st May	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	9,900	12th May	Marseilles & London
"MALWA"	10,344	29th May	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	9,114	12th June	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	10,302	28th June	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	8,138	10th July	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	10,302	24th July	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	8,097	7th Aug.	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	10,344	14th Aug.	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	10,344	4th Sept.	Marseilles & London
"KASHGAR"	10,344	18th Sept.	Marseilles & London
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"KASHGAR"	9,005	18th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KALMA"	10,000	20th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	8,114	30th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"TANDA"	8,558	1st May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"MALWA"	10,344	14th May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	10,344	28th May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	8,097	11th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	10,344	25th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	8,097	9th July	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	10,344	23rd July	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	8,097	6th Aug.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	10,344	20th Aug.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	8,097	3rd Sept.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KASHGAR"	10,344	17th Sept.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe

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THE INEVITABLE.

(Reuter's Service.)

Peking April 10.

The Kuomintang leaders have requested Wu Pei-fu to come and restore the political situation.

They have released Tsao Kun, the ex-President of the Republic. Cabinet officials called on the Senior Minister and stated that Chang Chi-hiang, the nominal head of the Kuomintang, has agreed.

Their action is due to growing discontent with Feng Yu-shiang.

BRITAIN AND CHINA.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, April 10.

Commenting on the fortunes of war in China, where "armies are chasing destructively over the pursuit of victory which is never real victory," the "Times" says that while Western powers certainly need patience, the worst thing for China would be to permit the Powers' attitude to be considered one of waiting and submitting with Oriental fatalism to doing nothing.

Britain particularly cannot afford to be identified with barren negotiations or mere general recognition, in the abstract, of principles. An uneasy feeling prevails that British policy should be far more active and British initiative far more conspicuous for the sake of China and those British interests which, having contributed so greatly to Chinese development, are seriously threatened in the present critical phase.

FRANC DROPS.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, April 10.

M. Durand, Minister of Agriculture, has been appointed Minister of Interior in succession to M. Malvy. The franc dropped three points coincident with M. Malvy's resignation.

Apparently his departure is interpreted in financial circles as paving the way for Henriot's return to power which will mean a Cartellist ministry with a Socialistic financial programme including a capital levy.

The prospect is hardly reassuring for the money market. M. Durand is a Radical, like Malvy.

PARIS ARRESTS.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, April 10.

The arrest of a French gendarme and taxi-driver and a German naval ex-officer as the trio alighted from a motor car to-night is the latest development in the drug campaign. The gendarme carried a bag said to contain ten pounds of cocaine which is believed to emanate from Darmstadt and to be smuggled into France with the connivance of gendarmes.

HEAVY PENALTY.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, April 10.

The "Humanite" announces that fines enforced in the City of Paris have resulted in a total stoppage of the salaries of three Communist deputies—Cachin, Vaillant-Couturier and Doriot who were sentenced last October in connection with an attack on police in a Communist demonstration.

The fines aggregate a million francs while sentences of imprisonment on the three deputies total 145 years.

LEFT FOR PULHAM.

(Reuter's Service.)

Rome, April 10.

Capt. Amundsen's airship, "Norge," a semi-rigid Italian dirigible, which will be used in the Amundsen and Ellsworth North Polar expedition, left for Pulham at nine morning en route to Oslo.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

The B. I. s.s. "Benlunan" from Middlesbro', Antwerp, London and Straits is due to arrive here on April 14.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Russia" arrived at Yokohama on April 9 left Yokohama on April 10 and is due at Vancouver on April 15.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Asia" left Vancouver for Hongkong, via Japan ports and Shanghai, on April 3 and is due here on April 21.

The s.s. "Sumatra" (Swedish East Asiatic Co., Ltd.), left Dunkirk on March 16 and is due here on or about April 23.

The s.s. "Ceylon" (Swedish East Asiatic Co., Ltd.), left Antwerp on April 4 and is due here on or about May 12.

CONSIGNEES' NOTICE.

Goods arrived by s.s. "Kath-lamba," remaining undelivered after to-day will be subject to rent. Agents—The Bank Line Ltd.

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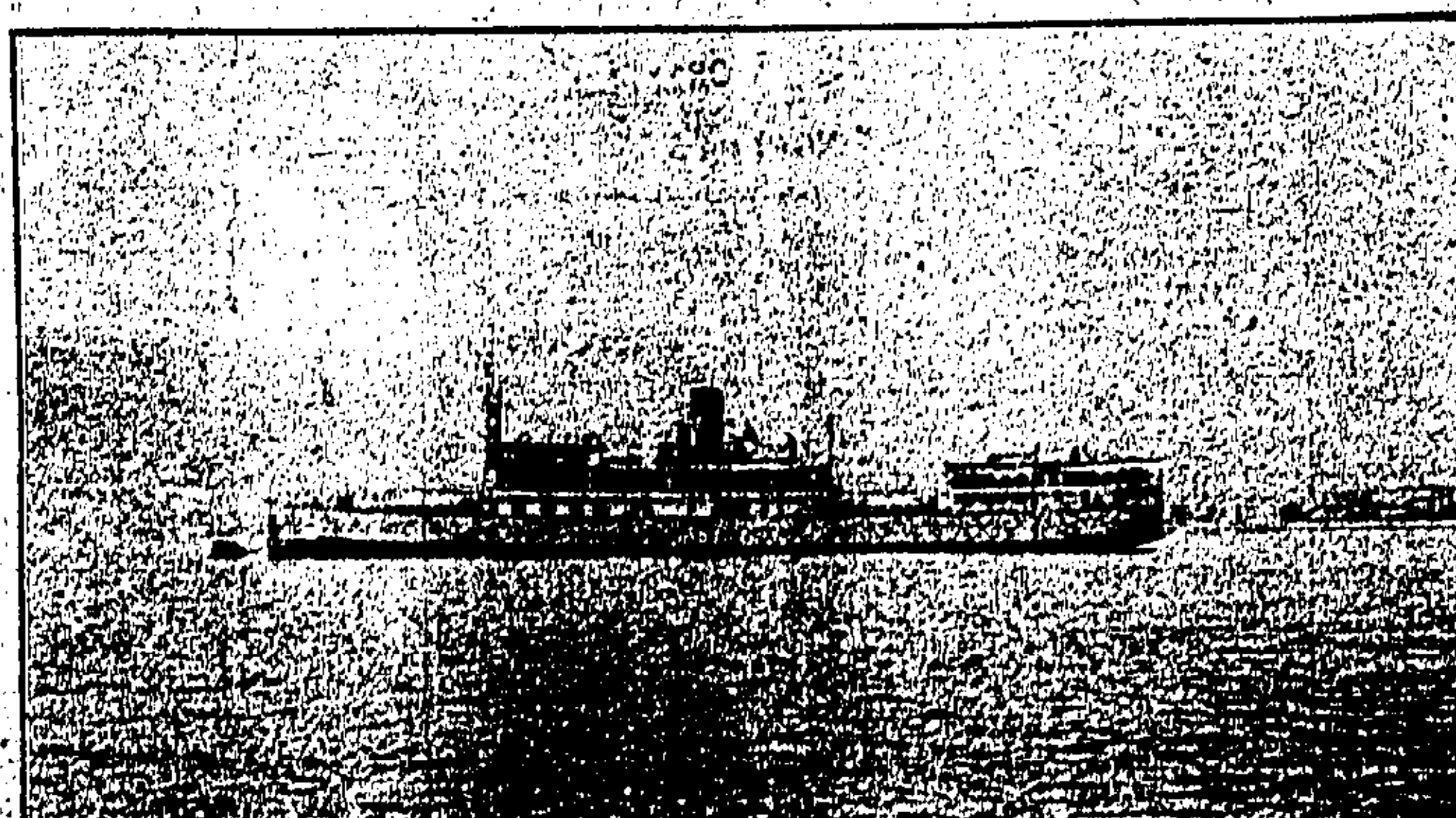
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BIRTHS.

ANDERSON.—On March 6, at 10,
Alexandra Court, Queen's
gate, S.W., to Peggie (née
Robertson), the wife of
George Boyd Anderson (now
in Singapore), a daughter.

HENDERSON.—On March 9, at
Hartfield, Cooden Beach, to
Margaret, the wife of C. M.
Henderson (late of Penang,
S.S.), a son.

JACQUES.—On February 27, at
Clifton, Bristol, to Frederick
and Evelyn Jacques (both of
the Malayan Medical Ser-
vice), twin daughters.

MURRAY.—On March 2, at Cecil
House, Cecil Road, Norwich,
to Capt. and Mrs. H. J.
Stewart Murray, of Kudat,
B.N. Borneo, a daughter.

WHITFIELD.—On March 31,
1926, at European Hospital,
Kuala Lumpur, to Mr. and
Mrs. Hugh Whitfield, a
daughter.

DEATHS.

BROCK.—On February 27, 1926,
at Hyeres, France, William
Reginald Frederick Brock of
F.M.S. and Guernsey, aged
48.

GRIMSTONE.—On March 31, at
the International Hospital,
Hankow, Frances Martha,
beloved wife of S. E. Grim-
stone, aged 28 years.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT.

The wedding will take place at
St. John's Cathedral, at 3 p.m., on
Tuesday, April 20, of Mr. S. B.
Tan, son of the late Mr. and Mrs.
Tan Cheng-tuan, of Singapore, to
Miss Elizabeth Wong, eldest
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M.
Wong, Hongkong.

Friends are invited to be pre-
sent; also at the reception after
the ceremony, at the Chinese Mer-
chants' Club, China Building.

Hongkong, Monday, April 12, 1926.

PLEA FOR PUBLICITY.

Six weeks ago attention was
drawn in this column to the
secretary pervading the meetings
of the Education Board. Now
the Committee of the Kowloon
Residents' Association, in the in-
terests of Kowloon and other
parts of the Colony, has decided
to ask the Government that the

meetings of the Education Board
be again thrown open to the
Press. It is learned that Mr. B.
Wylie attended the meeting of
the K.R.A. Committee and gave a
report on the work of the Educa-
tion Board—that report being
alluded to as "private and con-
fidential in view of the fact that
the meetings of the Board are
now held in camera." But, if
such reports can be communicated
to the K.R.A. Committee, why not
to the whole Association and also
to the entire community? If the
Committee of the K.R.A. can be
the repository of reports of this
nature why continue the pretence
of privacy and confidence in re-
spect to the work of the Educa-
tion Board?

What has been gained to the
cause of education since the Press
was excluded from the meetings
of the Board? Has the Board, in
common with other public bodies,
not always enjoyed the privilege
of meeting in Committee when
purely private matters were
under discussion? Even journal-
ists with experience as members
of Municipal and other Councils
elsewhere will be the first to admit
that it is not always politic to
publish all and everything that
transpires during meetings open
to the Press. And the Press has
always been worthy of the trust
reposed in it when respectfully
requested not to report certain
matters at certain stages of de-
velopment, besides other items
that may be labelled "purely per-
sonal" the publication of which is
undesirable, to say the least.

But, on the other hand, there
must be many discussions at the
meetings of the Board of Educa-
tion the reporting of which would
undoubtedly be helpful to the
cause of education. As we
stated, in commenting on the mat-
ter in our issue of February 26,
when meetings of the Board were
open to the Press, "the public
generally was stimulated to
evince a degree of interest in
education that otherwise would
have been lacking." In addition,
the public was given an oppor-
tunity of appraising the worth of
the work of the members of the
Board in the interests of educa-
tion in the Colony. Conversely,
through the existence of the
Board, the Government was given
an excellent medium for the dis-
semination of its educational
policy, thus creating and main-
taining public confidence therein.

As the Government is always
ready to receive advice and sug-
gestions proffered in regard to
the health of the community from
the Sanitary Board, so it used to
be regarded as equally ready to
hear the counsels of the Education
Board. What has happened and
what is happening in the realm of
education is a sealed letter. The
Press would like to know. The
public would like to know through
the Press.

It is to be trusted that other
Residents' Associations in the
Colony will strongly support the
Kowloon Association in request-
ing the Government to re-open the
Education Board meetings to the
Press. The request is a reason-
able and rational one in every re-
spect. It may have been that the
previous decision of the authori-
ties was of an experimental
nature. In that case they have
been given ample time in which
to test the experiment and to
"show cause" why such meetings
could not in their opinion be re-
ported. But, they have also been
given evidence of a desire on the
part of the public for a know-
ledge of Education Board affairs.
That in itself is a healthy spirit
and one to be encouraged in every
possible way by the Government.

OVERSEAS MEN.

Sir Edward Stockton has an
article in the "Overseas" for
March called "The Treatment of
overseas men," which is very
timely. In its main charges, it
may have little to do with such
places as Hongkong, and more
with the Straits Settlements; but
in some quarters it may prick a
somnolent conscience. Sir
Edward lays it down as a convic-
tion that unless overseas service
is made attractive, it will be im-
possible to get the best type of
young men to devote themselves
to it. Character and ability are
the qualifications which all young
Britons going overseas should
possess. "The possession of
character is particularly needed in
Oriental countries since on it Brit-
ish prestige largely rests." Sir
Edward Stockton charges that too
often the younger generation finds
that after it has given several of
the best years it possesses to the
promotion of the highest interests
of its employers it is remorselessly
thrown on the scrap heap, be-
cause cheaper labour can be
secured. Very often a man goes
out to take up planting on a slid-
ing scale contract. He does quite
well, and at the end of the first
four years he should be entitled to
a new contract with an advance of
salary as a recognition of the ex-
perience he has gained. The
agents on the spot often allow him
to come home in the blind belief
that this contract will be forth-
coming. It is not forthcoming,
and on reaching home the em-
ployee is dismissed on the ground
"that they are engaging a be-
ginner to do his job because it is
cheaper." Sir Edward utters
strictures on the practice of dis-
missing men at the end of the
second four years of contract; of
the system of half—instead of
full pay; non-payment of wives'
passages; and the reduction of
salaries during a slump with no
increase of them during times of
prosperity. Sir Edward says that
these are defects of Overseas busi-
ness activities which will have to
be faced by employing firms in
England. He adds that "it is not
too much to say that other for-
eign nations often treat their
Overseas workers very much
better than our firms do." Heavy
responsibilities rest on those who
employ men from Home. Sir
Edward stresses this and urges
firms "to leave no stone unturned
to see that they get the best men
and to look after them well."

THEY SAY THAT—

"We need what I may call an
emotional shove that will bring us
to a re-assertion of our birth-
right."—Jane Addams.

"We desire peace, but our safest
peace will be beneath the shadow
of our swords."—Benito Musso-
lini.

"Neither Gilbert nor Sullivan
was an immortal artist; yet both
are!"—Robert Lynd.

"New York has changed little
in five years except that every-
thing is moving rather faster
north, south, east, west and sky-
ward."—John Drinkwater.

"In art, as in politics, enthu-
siasm without capacity, and the
really dangerous people."—Lord
Howard.

SHREDS AND PATCHES.

How many, one
Shakespeare's wonders, have no
Howler. ticed Shakespeare's
amazing blunder

when, in the second act of Julius
Caesar Brutus says, "Peace, count
the clock," and Cassius readily re-
plies, "The clock has stricken three."
Shakespeare may have had a clock,
but certainly Brutus never had, for
clocks such as struck the hour were
not invented until fully 1,200 years
after his day.

That those engaged in
A kindly martial activities can
Man. be of a kindly nature is
shown by the story of
the Chinese general, Wu Pei-fu,
told by a Japanese:

"Wu Pei-fu is extremely polite.
Some time ago he came to the con-
clusion that a Japanese general had
made money personally out of a
Chinese loan. One day he found
out that his suspicions had been
unfounded.

"He immediately sent for the
Japanese general and said, 'I have
an apology to make. I was under
the impression that you had made
money in a dishonourable way.
Despite these suspicions I never
said a word about it to any one.
All the same thoughts are as dan-
gerous as words. I apologise.'"

An American called
Not Easily Bacon once visited
Impressed. Wu Pei-fu, and lec-
tured him on the
wonders of modern invention as
exemplified in his own home town.

Wu Pei-fu was bored.
Eventually, when Mr. Bacon de-
scribed the sky in America as being
black, with aeroplanes, he could
stand it no more.

"We in China," remarked Wu
Pei-fu, "have long discarded fly-
ing."

"Indeed," replied the surprised
Mr. Bacon.

"Certainly," continued Wu Pei-fu.
"If you read Chinese history you
will find that the Emperors used
to ascend to Heaven on a golden
cloud. Now, it is impossible to
fly on golden clouds. It is obvious,
therefore, that there must have
been aeroplanes.

"However, it is not a Chinese
custom to tire our friends by dis-
cussing such a boring subject."

Many years ago
A True Tail writes C. H. B. in
the Punjab during
the hot weather, I was amusing
myself by watching lizards catch-
ing flies (musca domestica) on the
walls.

"It occurred to me that per-
haps a fly could be imitated, so in
schoolboy fashion I made up a
moist pellet of blackened blotting-
paper, placed this in the end of a
pen-holder, and took aim so as to
lodge the bait a few inches in front
of a lizard. After one or two at-
tempts I succeeded. The creature
darted at the pellet and swallowed
it in the twinkling of an eye, or
should I not say "the-twitching of
a tail?"

I then mixed some pepper in the
pellets, and the effect of this relish
on the next lizard was astonishing.
It dashed up the wall, stopped a
few inches from the ceiling, gave
a somewhat querulous look and, all
of a sudden, whisked off its tail!
I may mention that this appendage
wriggles about for some time after
leaving its owner, and the latter
does not appear to be any the worse
for its loss and soon grows a new
tail.

THE DAYS OF REAL CHIVALRY.

We of what we are often inclined
to conclude is the drab age of the
commonplace, the era in which
generosity, courage, unselfishness
and even kindness are discounted,
and in which the only thought of
those who hope to succeed must
be for themselves, have been
awakened recently to the realisation
that the days of real chivalry
are no more of the past and the
future than of the present. Hardly
a day has passed in the last week
or more that there has not been
recorded upon the scroll of unself-
ish human achievement some out-
standing act of real heroism where
those performing, such acts have
been impelled by no other motive
or purpose than that irresistible
impulse which brings with it the
desire and willingness to express
in concrete form the brotherhood
of mankind.

The affairs of the world, large
and small, will all be taken care of,
one concludes, so long as there re-
mains to be obeyed this prompting
which, at times of peril or distress,
causes men and women to forget
their own welfare or safety in the
desire to succour and save those
who are unable to help themselves.
There is no need to pass laws to
compel those to do right who by
impulse are unselfish. It would
serve no real purpose to enact into
law the words of the Golden Rule:
"The masses armies and navies of
all the civilized nations of the
world would never be able to

Londoners, accord-
ing to Smithfield
Bill, figures, consume at
the present time

27.5oz. per head of beef, mutton,
and pork each week. Beef, as is
only right in view of the traditional
song, heads the list with 22.7 oz.;
mutton is second with 11.6oz.; and
pork third with 3.6oz. Of the total
quantity, British head meat equals
only 6.6oz. per head. The figures
are set out by the Superintendent
of Smithfield in an interesting re-
port he presents in reference to the
work of the year.

Browning was in-
vited to make a
Gramophone record of his voice
at the time when
the gramophone was in the experi-
mental stage.

"Madame Lehmann was anxious
to persuade Browning to recite one
of his poems into what Stanford
Brooke described as that 'vile in-
vention of the scientific folk,' and
finally the poet unwillingly consent-
ed."

"But so confused did this
amazingly modest man become that,
though he was reciting his own
composition, how they brought the
good news from Ghent to Aix, he
suddenly stopped dead in the second
verse and looked appealingly to
Mr. J. Comyns Carr who supplied
the line for him. 'Thank you,
Carr, gasped Browning, gratefully,
and then finished speaking the rest
of the poem.'"

"Neither man had grasped" the
fact that this little interlude had
become part of the performance,
and there was much merriment
when the record, which out host
claimed as a memento of Robert
Browning, was reproduced."

The series of the
"One Long" letters of Queen Vic-
toria begins with the period im-
mediately

following the death of the Prince
Consort, a blow which left Queen
Victoria stunned and grief-
stricken. In a letter dated Febru-
ary, 1862, to the Earl of Derby,
then Leader of the Conservative
Opposition, she wrote:

To express what the Queen's
desolation and utter misery is, is
almost impossible; every feeling
seems swallowed up in that one of
unbounded grief! She feels as
though her life had ended on that
dreadful day when she lost that
bright angel who was her idol,
the life of her life; and time
seems to have passed in one long
dark day!

She sees the trees budding, the
days lengthen, the primroses com-
ing out, but she thinks herself
still in the month of December!
The Queen toils away from morn-
ing till night, goes out twice a
day, does all she is desired to by
her physician, but she wastes and
pines, and there is that within her
most soul which seems to be
burdening her existence!

And how can it be otherwise?
The happiness and comfort of
twenty-two years crushed for
ever; and the Queen, who did
nothing, thought of nothing,
without her beloved and gracious
husband, who was her support,
her constant companion, her
guide, who helped her in every-
thing, great and small, stands
alone in her trying and difficult
position, struggling to do her
duty, as she will to her last hour,
with a broken, bleeding heart, and
with but one consolation—to
rejoin him again, never to part!

THE DAYS OF REAL CHIVALRY.

enforces the kindly edict: "Love
thy neighbor as thyself."

So the era of chivalry will con-
tinue with us just so long as this
inspired counsel is voluntarily
heeded (says the "Christian
Science Monitor"). With this re-
alisation there comes the gratifying
assurance that we should not too
apprehensively view the confusing
and somewhat discouraging evi-
dences so profusely displayed
which tend to persuade us that the
world of to-day is in a very bad
way. The discordant clamour of
the mob impinges almost relen-
tantly upon human consciousness,
and as one is disturbed by raucous
voices of the night, so do those who
listen too closely to the alarms
which are sounded "incline to the
opinion that the sterner and deeper
note of righteousness and justice
has been silenced.

But reason and right interpreta-
tion come with the morning. In
the revealing light of day we see
outstanding, like beacons to human
hope, the unimpeachable evidences
of the imperishable brotherhood
upon which rest the foundations of
civilisation and progress. Just as
we are able to forget the discor-
dant which the night brought; so
may we regard with less concern
much that is said of so-called crime
waves of human selfishness, of
human depravity and of man's in-
humanity to man. All these things,
it may be hoped, will in due time
pass away.

RUN ON BANKS.

CUBA PASSING THROUGH A CRISIS.

APPEAL TO THE PRESS.

(Reuter's American Service.)

Havana, April 11.

A threatened run on a certain bank was forestalled by President Machado, who visited the bank and deposited \$100,000, offering to make a loan from the Treasury. The President has stated that Cuba is passing through a slight crisis, and has asked the Press to co-operate and instill confidence.

Frantic Depositors.

New York, April 11.

Several banks in Havana experienced runs yesterday.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is reported to be sending \$50,000,000 in currency by a special train to Key West whence it will be conveyed to Havana by a Cuban warship.

President Machado and the Government newspapers are reassuring frantic depositors who are clamouring for their money.

The trouble started in the Marianas suburb of Havana. The news quickly spread, creating a panic among depositors of other banks.

Rumours of a moratorium have been officially denied.

The latest reports say that the panic spread to the cities of Santa Clara, Santiago, and Cienfuegos.

PEKING COUP.

CHI-JUI'S HEADQUARTERS SURROUNDED.

(Reuter's Service.)

Peking, April 10.

The Kuomintang coup d'état was carried out with the greatest secrecy. The gates were closed last night and telephones cut off for several hours.

Tuan Chi-jui's headquarters were surrounded but otherwise there was no sign that important events were happening.

It transpires that Tuan Chi-jui entered the French Legation prior to the coup.

Tuan Denounced by Kuomintang.

A Kuomintang proclamation has been posted saying that Tuan Chi-jui, since he assumed office, has done all kinds of mischief detrimental to the people and the country, his worst offences being the signing of the Gold Franc Agreement, without the approval of the people, and the recent massacre of students which aroused the hate and indignation of the people. "We are obliged," the proclamation says, "to take drastic measures against him and his Anfu supporters."

Tuan Chi-jui's bodyguard adopted the Kuomintang uniform and removed to another part of the city as a new mixed brigade.

Prisoner or Refugee?

Owing to the strict censorship and the confusion in Peking, some doubt exists as to the whereabouts of Tuan Chi-jui.

A Peking message received, via Tientsin, states that he has been placed under restraint, while an earlier message direct from Peking states that he entered the French Legation prior to the coup.

PROHIBITION.

CANADA'S EXPERIMENTS AND EXPERIENCE.

(Reuter's American Service.)

Washington, April 10.

Canada's experiments figured in to-day's evidence at the Prohibition Enquiry. Canadian witnesses testified that Western Canada suffered an unprecedented crime wave during the last two years of prohibition, but had completely recovered from this since the abolition of the bootleggers and rum-runners.

Sir William Stavert (Montreal) described Quebec's plan of liquor control, resulting in the banishment of the bootlegger, and asserted that the law increased temperance and the people were satisfied.

U.S. IMMIGRATION.

SENATE REJECTS A SCORE OF BILLS.

(Reuter's American Service.)

Washington, April 11.

Nearly a score of Bills designed to increase immigration quotas have been rejected by the Senate. The Immigration Committee Bills aimed at the admission of domestic servants, farm-hands and Americans' fiancées.

GREAT NATURALIST.

DEATH OF MR. LUTHER BURBANK.

LOSS TO FRUIT GROWERS.

(Reuter's Service.)

San Francisco, April 11.

The death has occurred of Mr. Luther Burbank, the great naturalist.

Sketch of His Career.

Luther Burbank, naturalist, originator of new fruits, flowers, etc., was born at Lancaster, Massachusetts on March 7, 1849. His boyhood was spent on a farm; and he was educated at Lancaster Academy (S. D. Tufts, 1906).



LUTHER BURBANK.

Always devoted to study of nature, especially plant life, he moved to Santa Rosa, California, in 1875; conducted Burbank's Experimental Farms; was the originator of the Burbank potato, rapid-growing edible thornless opuntias (cactus), Gold, Wickson, Apple, October, Chaco, America, Santa Rosa, Formosa, Beauty, Eldorado, and Climax plums; Giant Splendor, Sugar, Standard and Stoneless prunes; a new fruit, the Plumcot; Burbank and Abundant cherries; Peachblow Burbank and Santa Rosa roses; gigantic forms of amaryllis, tigridias, the Shasta Daisy; Giant and Fragrance callas; and various new apples, peaches, nuts, berries and other valuable trees, fruits, flowers, grasses, grains and vegetables.

He had over 3,000 extensive experiments under way and had growing over 5,000 distinct botanical specimens from all parts of the world. More than a million plants were raised every year for testing.

Mr. Burbank was a special lecturer on evolution at Leland Stanford Jun. University; a member of the American Pomological Society; a life fellow of the A.A.S.; hon. member of the Royal Botanical Society of Sweden, California State Board of Trade, California State Floral Society, California Academy of Sciences, Italian Royal Agricultural Society, Pacific Coast Nurserymen's Association, American Social Science Society, American Genetic Association, and a life member of the Red Cross; Hon. Pres. of the Chamber of Commerce, Santa Rosa; Hon. President of the Sopoma Co. (California), and Boy Scouts; hon. member of the American Playground Society; and a Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society, (London).

Mr. Burbank was the author of "Training of the Human Plant;" "Methods and Discoveries" (12 vols.); "How Plants are Trained to Work for Man" (8 vols.), 1921; also numerous magazine articles.

AIR DISASTER.

FIVE MEN DIE IN TERRIBLE BLAZE.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, April 10.

Henlow Aerodrome (Bedfordshire) was this morning the scene of the worst Air Force disaster since the war. A giant Vickers-Vimy machine, piloted by Flying Officer Charles Victor Lacey, who returned from leave to-day, was carrying three mechanics who engaged in parachute practice. It was landing at the same time as an Avro machine, piloted by Flying Officer William Scott, took off.

The machines collided at an altitude of a few hundred feet, and both plunged to the ground where they took fire, flames shooting 200 feet into the air.

The five occupants died in this terrible blaze.

The Fire Brigade had the flames under control in thirty minutes, but only twisted metal remained, the bodies being unrecognisable.

TEXAS DISASTER.

EXPLOSION OF AN OIL TANKER.

FIFTY CASUALTIES.

(Reuter's American Service.)

Port Arthur (Texas), Apr. 11.

Twenty persons were killed and 30 injured as the result of an explosion in an oil tanker which was loading 90,000 gallons of petrol.

BAGDAD'S MENACE.

INLAND SEA RAPIDLY WIDENING.

(Reuter's Service.)

Bagdad, April 10.

Ten thousand men, women and children are at present assembled on the East Embankment anxiously scanning the rapidly widening inland sea, while the new Arab Army, encouraged by the strains of a brass band, are heroically moving enormous quantities of earth to reinforce the protecting banks of the Capital, which are so far safe, thanks to 5,000 men working night and day to safeguard the city with its valuable stocks of fragile merchandise and thousands of flimsy houses built of mud and brick. The breach has actually widened. The North Railway Station is five feet under water.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

REQUEST FOR A ROYAL COMMISSION.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, April 10.

A mass meeting will be held at the end of April to propose a resolution requesting the Government to order an enquiry on the lines of the Coal Commission, regarding the continued depression in the cotton trade, especially as regards recapitalisation during the turnover period 1919-20. It is notified that a circular to 16 cotton companies has been issued by the Shareholders and Loanholders' Protection Association.

MOROCCO WAR.

SPANISH PEACE DELEGATE IN PARIS.

(Havas Agency.)

Paris, April 11.

"Le Matin" announces that Signor Lopes Olivani, the principal Spanish delegate to the future conference at Oudjda has arrived in Paris, and will meet M. Painleve and the French delegates in order to lay down the conditions under which an armistice could be granted to the Rifians.

It is likely that the delegates will leave for Oudjda on April 12.

FRENCH FINANCE.

HANDSOME DONATIONS FOR AMORTISATION.

(Havas Agency.)

Paris, April 11.

The Presidents of the Chamber and the Senate have donated 10,000 francs each for amortisation. The Government has decided that Ministers will each give 5,000 francs, and Under-Secretaries of State 1,000 francs.

DRUSES REBELS.

TWO IMPORTANT LEADERS SUBMIT.

(Havas Agency.)

Damascus, April 11.

Two important Druse leaders have submitted. Bedouins attacked the Druses in order to take lands occupied by the latter. Thirty of the Druses were killed.

STUBBORN.

SOVIETS REFUSE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE.

(Reuter's Service.)

Geneva, April 10.

Replying to the League's last Note regarding the Disarmament Conference, the Soviets adhere to their former attitude of refusing to participate in a conference on Swiss soil.

MOVEMENT OF STEAMER.

The E. L. S. "Bendoran" from Leith, Rotterdam and Antwerp is due to arrive here on April 23.

CONSIGNEE'S NOTICE.

Goods ex ss. "Bantoum" remaining undelivered in the godowns at Saturday night (April 17) will be subject to sale.

MANILA FLIGHT.

TWO SPANISH AIRMEN REACH BAGDAD.

THIRD MISSING.

(Reuter's Service.)

Bagdad, April 11.

Two of the Spanish airmen who are flying from Madrid to Manila have arrived here.

The whereabouts of the third is unknown.

[A China Press cable from Madrid on March 27 stated: Captain Loriga has announced that he will start his Manila round-trip flight next month with Captain Estevez and Captain Gallarez. The fliers declare that the flight is closely related to the authorised aeroplane tests. They have studied closely the flights of the British and Portuguese fliers and will take practically the same course. They believe the flight will be more hazardous, however, as aeroplanes instead of seaplanes are being used. Captain Estevez to-day said: "by using three planes we have added security of reaching Manila. I hope to add another glorious deed to Spanish history." Each airman will write an account of his experiences.]

POLAR FLIGHT.

AMUNDSEN AND ELLSWORTH HONOURED.

(Reuter's Service.)

Oslo, April 10.

The King received Capt. Amundsen and Ellsworth who are shortly leaving on a steamer for Spitzbergen to get ready for the arrival of the airship "Norge," which is not likely to start for the Pole before the end of May.

The American Legation afterwards gave a luncheon to Ellsworth and Amundsen to whom the American Minister presented the American flag from President Coolidge, which he hoped would eventually be placed at the Pole together with the flags presented by the Kings of Norway and Italy. The Minister also conveyed President Coolidge's best wishes for the success of the flight.

Scott Arrives.

London, April 11.

The Norge, piloted by Major Scott, who twice crossed the Atlantic in R.34, landed safely at Pulham at 5.50 this afternoon.

He is expected at Spitzbergen on April 20.

Scenes At Pulham.

London, later.

Hundreds of groundmen at Pulham resembled children chasing a derelict air balloon as the Norge repeatedly approached the white signal on a patch of ground and overshoot mark. It had to manoeuvre in wide circles and try again. Occasionally the men seizing the ropes were lifted in the air six or seven feet before releasing their hold.

It was over two hours before the Norge was secured and shepherded to the hangar. It accomplished the non-stop flight in 30 hours. The fuel would have lasted another eight hours.

The engineers are satisfied with the behaviour and ability of the Norge to perform the Polar trip.

LIGHTER MISSING.

In a report made to the police by the coxswain of the steam launch "Yew Sang" he states that he left Shaikwan on Saturday with three lighters loaded with kerosene in tow and encountering a strong wind in Chinese waters he was forced to cut the lighters adrift and seek shelter.

Visiting the scene subsequently, he picked up two of the lighters, but one is reported to be missing.

There is a growing feeling, we are informed, in Greece that all revolutions should be arranged for week-ends, in order not to interfere too much with business.

The Cape Argus has devoted a grave leader to the question of the truth in testimonials. The writer's conclusion seems to be that the testimonials are really valueless, since most of those who have to write them are the victims of good nature, and he suggests that the telling of the bald truth in such documents would, on the other hand, have the effect of rendering them useless. "If the whole truth became the accepted practice the population generally would, without fail, be in the position of that applicant for a situation who, on being asked if he had brought any testimonials, replied in the negative and, on being further interrogated, why he had not done so, naively answered that he thought he would be better without one." But it is really a serious question in modern life.

LOCAL IMPORTS.

CHAMBER'S FORTNIGHTLY REPORT.

The chapter on imports, in the fortnightly report of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, reads:—

Hongkong, April 9.

Cotton Piece Goods and Fancy Cotton Goods: Our market has been quiet in all directions and the only scale of importance reported is one of low quality Black Venetians, for which an exceptionally cheap price was accepted. Eg. Sash, has declined to 15.35d whilst Mid. Am. "Spot" is nominally unchanged at 9.96d.

Cotton Yarn: A small business has been done at declining rates in sympathy with the raw material. Nominal quotations are as follows:—No. 10s. \$165/175. No. 12s. 170/180. No. 16s. \$185/190. No. 20s. 190/195. Arrivals Nil. Shipments Nil. Sales 1,500 bales. Unsold stocks 7,500 bales. Bargains 2,500 bales. Woollens: Very little demand. Raw Cottons: No sales to report.

Metals:—Prices hardening and fair amount of enquiry but not much business brought to book.

Flour Market:—

Stocks: About 650,000 sacks. Quotations are:—American Patent, \$4.30 per sack; American Straight, \$3.50 per sack; American Cut off, \$3.50 per sack; Shanghai Flour, \$3.30 per sack; Australian No. 1, \$3.50 per sack; Canadian Cut-off, \$3.05 per sack; Canadian Clear, \$3.00 per sack; Sundries (Window Glass): Local stocks plentiful.

Sugar: Market dull. Saltpetre: No. 1—stocks 12,500 bags. Market very dull since last report.

LOCAL EXPORTS.

CHAMBER'S FORTNIGHTLY REPORT.

In the fortnightly report of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, the following remarks are taken from the chapter on exports:—

Hongkong, April 9.

Cantharides: Quiet. Cassia (Canton and Kwangsi): Small business. Wolfram 65 W. O. 3: Some business. [No remarks on other lines but buying quotations are given.]

Shadows Before.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN THE "MAIL."

Entertainments.

April 12—Star Theatre: "The Silent Call."

April 12—World Theatre: "Taming the West."

April 12—Queen's Theatre: "The Painted Flapper" also the "King of Balalaka."

April 13—Queen's Theatre: "Wild Granges."

April 15—Queen's Theatre: "The Last Laugh."

Sports.

April 14—Hongkong F.C. v. Kowloon F.C. Club ground, 5.15 p.m.

April 14—South China v. Police. Sookumpoo, 5.15 p.m.

April 17—Shield finals, Junior and Senior Divisions, H.K.F.C. Ground.

April 21—Fifth bi-annual ship's lifeboat race for the "Trevesa" Trophy, 4 p.m.

April 24—Final round in "Sun- November 6—Extra" race day Herald" Cup, between Portugal and England, on H.K.F.C. ground, 4.45 p.m.

April 24—Annual athletic sports of the Victoria Recreation Club.

May 1—"Extra" race-meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club.

Auctions.

April 13—Lammert Bros. will auction at Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Godown: Priya East, 29 casks Carbosil, 10.30 a.m.

April 13—At Lammert Bros. Sales Room, Duddell Street, miscellaneous goods, 11 a.m.

April 13—Lammert Bros. at Sales Room, suitings and hats, 11 a.m.

Company Meetings.

April 16—Nineteenth meeting of shareholders of Gande, Price & Co., Ltd., at No. 2, Ice House Street, (St. George's Building), noon.

April 22—Forty-eighth meeting of shareholders of China Sugar Refining Co., in the office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd., at noon.

April 24—Fourth meeting of shareholders of Lane, Crawford Ltd., Royal Building, Ice House Street, 11 a.m.

Miscellaneous.

April 12—Muzzling of dogs enforced until further notice.

April 12—Election of new member for the Sanitary Board.

April 14—Meeting of Hongkong Baseball Association, 5.15 p.m.

April 16—Meeting of members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce in the City Hall, 4 p.m.



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RED RED ROSE

KENNERLEY RUMFORD—BARITONE.

D 1532 { SEA FEVER
THE HOLY CHILD

NORMAN ALLIN—BASS.

D 1513 { SONG OF THE HARP PLAYER
THE BALLAD OF SEMMERWATER

D 1525 { TAVERN SONG
SEE THE WAY, YOU ROGUES

HUBERT EISELL—TENOR.

D 1528 { YEARNING
THE VALLEY OF ROSES

AT

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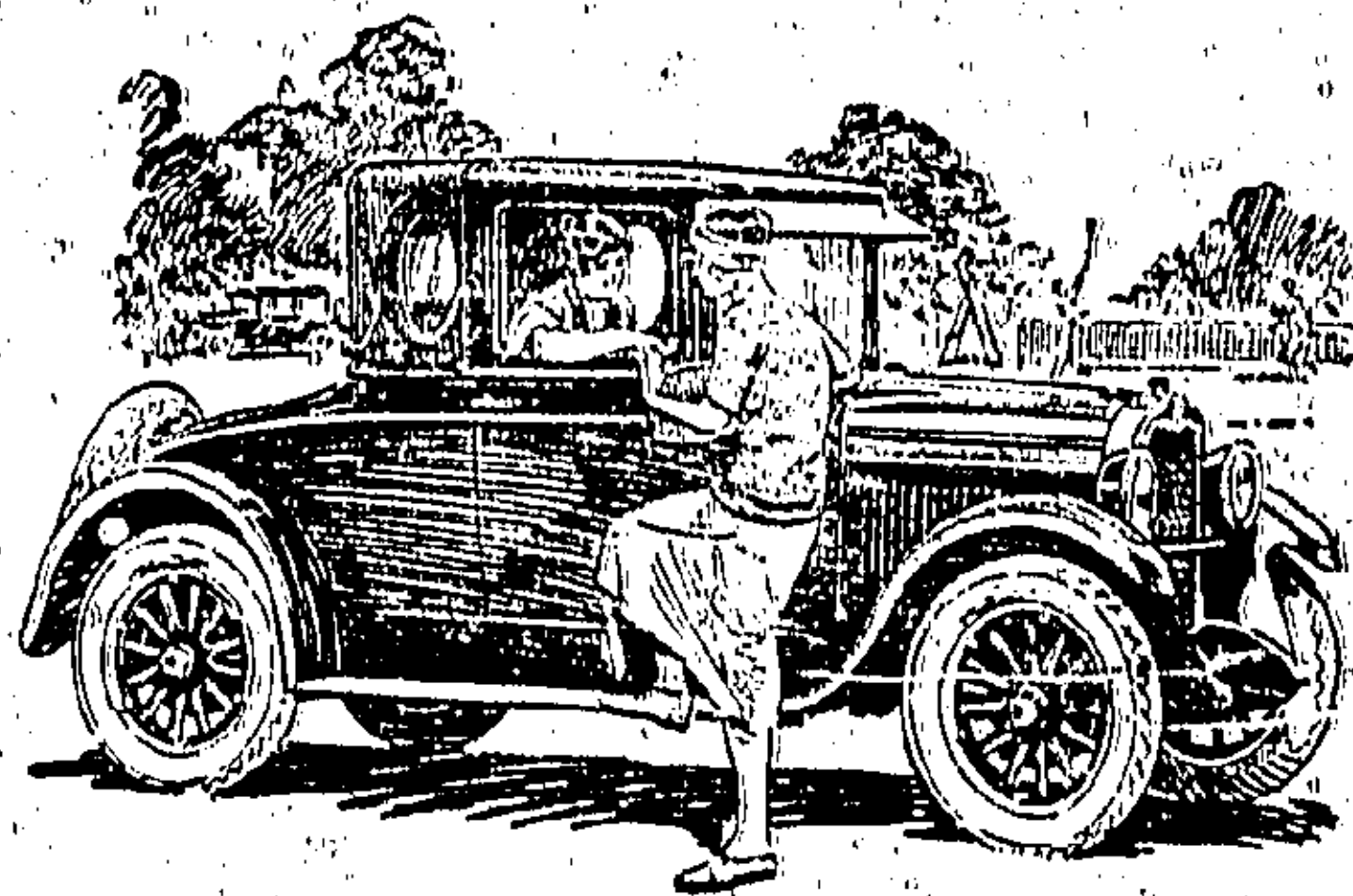


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LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The fourth annual ordinary general meeting of Messrs. Lane, Crawford, Ltd., will be held on Saturday, April 24, at 11 a.m.

The Kobe Cricket Club was unable to hold its annual meeting on March 29 owing to there not being a quorum of members in attendance.

The Yearly General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Shek O Development Co., Ltd., is to be held in the Offices of Messrs. Palmer & Turner, on Tuesday, April 27, 1926, at 5.15 p.m., to adopt the Accounts for the Year ending the December 31, 1925, and to elect Officers, etc.

A meeting of members of the Hongkong Baseball Association and others interested, will be held in the Office of the American Consulate General (by kind permission) on Wednesday, 14th inst., at 5.15 p.m. to elect Officers and discuss arrangements for forthcoming season.

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the Second Extra Race Meeting to be held on Saturday, May 1, 1926, (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Race Course, Hongkong Club and Causeway Bay Stables. Entries will close at 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, April 17, 1926.

Messrs. Vernon and Smyth in their fortnightly share report say:—

Enquiry for shares during the past fortnight has been on a comparatively restricted scale with few changes to record; the market generally has not altered much though buyers predominate. Shares being difficult to obtain through weak holders having sold previously.

Two unusual incidents were associated with the launching of the "Suffolk" the first of the five frigates of the County class now under construction at Portsmouth Dockyard. Lady Bristol, who performed the naming ceremony, made six efforts to break the christening bottle of champagne across the bows before the contents burst forth. Later, when the control rope had been severed by a special mallet and chisel, the vessel remained stationary. Enthusiastic cheering broke out as eventually the cruiser slipped towards the water. The ceremony was witnessed by Mr. Bridgeman, First Lord of the Admiralty.

Out of 7,588 members of the medical profession practising in London, about 12 per cent. are women.

The forthcoming wedding is announced of Surgeon Commander Geoffrey Palmer Ashdown, of the Royal Naval Hospital, to Miss Olive May Orme, of No. 515, The Penk.

The Federal House of Representative, Melbourne, has adopted a private member's Bill proposing that no British woman should lose her nationality by marriage with an alien.

At an extraordinary general meeting of the Easama Club on Friday evening, Mr. R. J. Hunt was elected to the post of Acting Secretary in place of Mr. McReynolds, proceeding on leave.

"I was prepared to live in a steel house for a month to see for myself whether they were suitable structures," said Mrs. Baldwin, opening a bazaar at Shaw (Lancs.), but my husband suggested that the proposal would savour of affection, which I abhor, so I put it off."

Still another young man has been appointed headmaster of a famous public school. He is Mr. G. C. Turner, assistant master at Marlborough College, Wiltshire, who at the age of 32 has been made headmaster of the school in succession to Dr. Cyril Norwood, now "head" at Harrow.

Coffee stalls have for long been a favourite stopping place with the bright young people of society on their way home from a theatre or a dance in London. Now a rival has sprung up in the chestnut sellers. Quite a number of these nowadays remain on the streets until the early hours of the morning. One little "furnace on wheels," which has its beat in the neighbourhood of Russell Square, has become a regular feature of Bloomsbury, and all sorts of people on their way home from parties and theatres stop to buy chestnuts and to warm their hands at the friendly blaze.

"Use more English politeness than French polish in future."—W. London magistrate to a disorderly French polisher.

A week after British troops evacuated Cologne the German aviation authorities have already completed plans to make Cologne the biggest air junction in Europe.

Mr. Ronald McNeill, Financial Secretary to the Treasury states that the balance due to depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank at December 31 last was \$285,400,000 an increase of \$5,026,567 over 1924, while the balance due to depositors in trustee savings banks on November 20 was \$33,570,000, an increase of \$1,285,460 over 1924.

Dancing is part of an Army officer's training. At Sandhurst, for instance, dances are held every Saturday in the big gymnasium and the cadets can invite any lady of their choice to meet them there. It is somewhat of a ceremonial function, for the commandant sits watching from his box in the gallery, and the instructors all appear in their scarlet regimentals, while the cadets themselves wear their navy blue mess kits.

Lord Carson, who moved in the House of Lords the second reading of the Moneylenders' Bill, said it was the experience of investigators that lenders who charged the highest interest were bullies of the worst type, and their debtors were too terrified to take their cases into court. In Liverpool alone, according to witnesses before the Select Committee, there were 1380 registered moneylenders, of whom 80 per cent. were women. Lord Desborough intimated that the Home Office was in agreement with the main provisions of the Bill, which was read a second time.

Drawing back his cuffs in the manner of a professional conjurer, Mr. Clauson, K.C., held his neck in a noose of cord in the Chancery Division. "Do not hang yourself," said Mr. Justice Astbury, warningly. Mr. Clauson was indicating how Mr. John Quiller Rowett (who financed the last Shackleton expedition) met his death in October 1924. Mr. Justice Astbury decided that Mr. Rowett committed suicide, and reserved judgment on the question as to whether the Scottish Providential Institution was liable to pay \$30,000 on insurance policies on Mr. Rowett's life.

Over 2000,000 was the total cost to candidates at the General Election of October 1924 according to a White Paper just issued.

First edition copies of Thackeray's Works were sold at Sotheby's for \$420. A sketch by Thackeray of "The Lord Mayor Killing Jack Cade" realised \$30.

An audience composed almost entirely of Members of Parliament saw Israel Zangwill's play, "The Forcing House," at the Little Theatre the other evening. Mr. R. Storrey Dennis, M.P. bought 400 seats in order to invite his brother members to see this satire on Bolshevism.

The agricultural department has found that nearly 4,000,000 of the 5,702,752 land-owners in France possess less than 25 acres of ground each. Only 30,280 have more than 250 acres and less than 5,000 have more than 750 acres. The small parcels into which French land has been cut up is given as one explanation of the statement that farmers pay little or no taxes. The small landowner profits from exemptions the same as owners of small businesses.

There are 14,444 co-operative loan societies in Japan by the latest government figures. How important these societies are in Japanese life may be gauged by their deposits which total about 490,000,000 yen. Their total advances to members are given at 440,000,000 yen. The popularity of the societies is attributed chiefly to the interest paid, the average being 3½ per cent. In addition, borrowers are charged an average of 11.3 per cent. per annum.

Miss Sybil Thorndike, with the whole of the company now playing Shakespeare's "King Henry VIII," at the Empire Theatre, will shortly visit one of the principal jails to give a reading of the play to the prisoners. The date of the visit has not been fixed. Stage costumes will not be worn, nor will there be any scenery. "The prison to be visited contains only first offenders," said Miss Thorndike's manager. "The object of the representation is not to provide the prisoners with a free show, but to direct their thoughts into a higher channel and give them the opportunity of appreciating a noble work of art. Such action is held by the authorities to be reformative, in that it fits prisoners to become better citizens after their release."

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.



Mrs. Lulu Moby, a Pittsburgh woman, who made unusual charges of irregularities against other members of a "mixed" American jury on which she served.

"I hope the best team will win," said the King, just after he had shaken hands with the thirty players who took part in the International Rugby match at Twickenham when England beat France by 11 points to 0.

Sir Joseph Cook, High Commissioner for Australia, opening the first exhibition of painting and sculpture under the auspices of the Dominion Artists' Club, said that one of the artists exhibiting had been reduced to such dire straits that he had to sell his works on the London pavements.

Mr. John Lewis, Blackburn, coachbuilder, president and one of the founders of the Lancashire Football Association, a vice-president of the Football Association and the Football League, one of the founders and a director and for many years treasurer and secretary of the Blackburn Rovers Football Club, and for many years one of the leading football referees, left \$15,731.

Their eight daughters, one of whom has eight children, attended the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. Chamberlain, of Leighton Buzzard.

"I am more proud to marry a good, honest London girl than I should be to marry an heiress," said Count Myatovich, former Minister for Serbia in London, after his marriage in London to Miss Ada Prior, a seamstress. The count is eighty-three years of age. His bride is forty-one.

When the immigration authorities sidetracked Vera Countess Cathcart from her liner to a private room on Ellis Island, for fear lest she should pollute the mainland, all New York burst into a roar of ribald laughter, and the "New York World" printed as an editorial eleven verses from the eighth chapter of St. John.

Sir Robert Baden Powell writes:—"I went to a dance club the other night with another man to see the fun. To say I was disappointed does not express it. I never saw such a feeble-looking lot of the male kind—not a man among them. And the girls were half naked, all skin and bone and powder-puff."

The period of Court mourning ordered on the death of Queen Alexandra has ended, and as a result dressmakers are looking forward to a rush of orders for brighter dresses. "Women in attendance on the Queen will now be able to wear coloured gowns again," said a leading dress-maker, "and this must lead to an increase of orders for dressmakers."

Glasgow is heading the return to the fashion laid down by St. Paul ("If a woman have long hair it is a glory to her"). The lead is taken by a certain "beauty parlour" in that city, which has ordered all women on the staff which have "shingled" to let their hair grow again. Failure to comply with the order will be visited with dismissal. It is supposed that the establishment foresees a return to normal, or it would not seek to discourage a fashion which has been a source of profit to its scissors.

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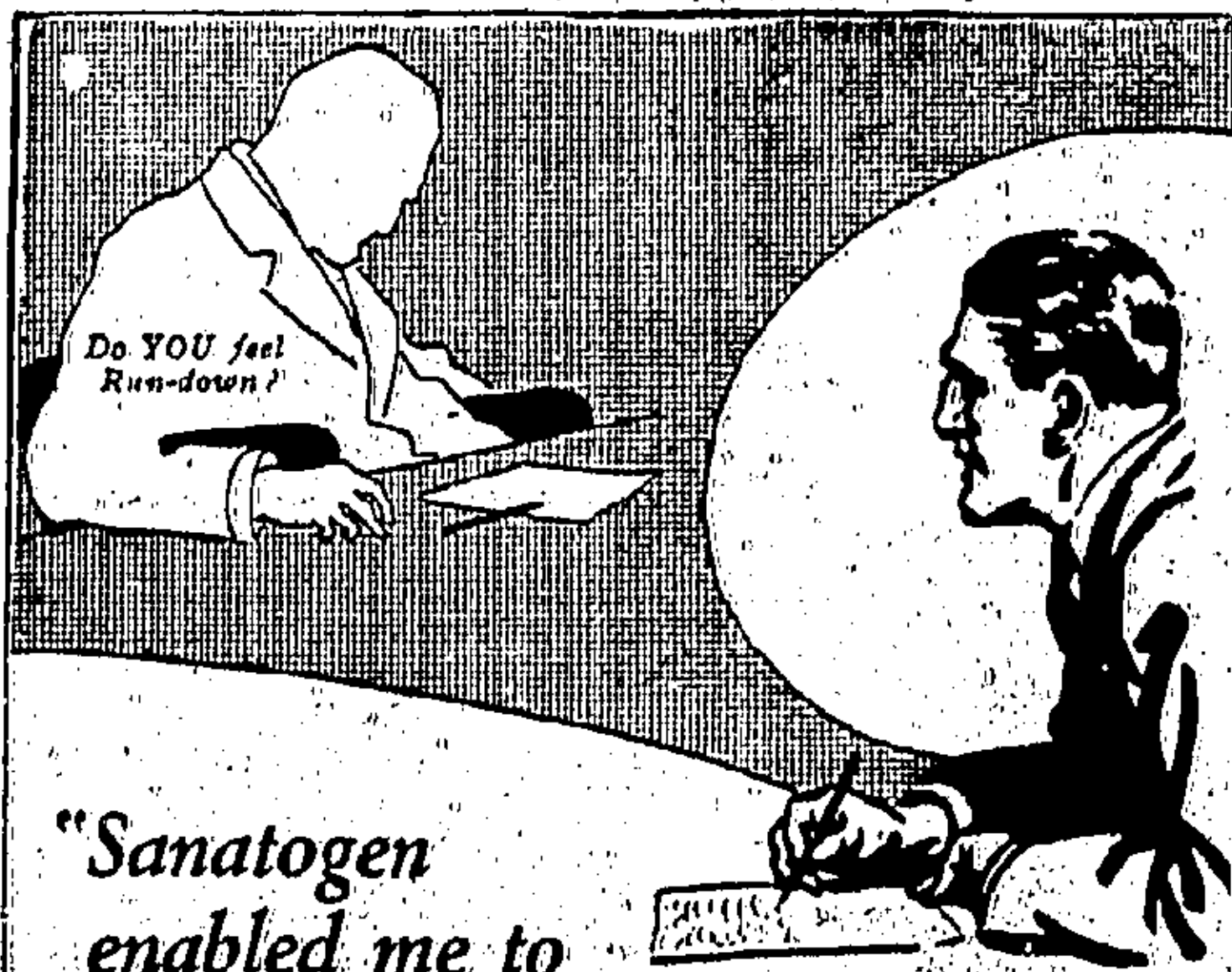
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People and Events in the News of the World



COL. THEO. ROOSEVELT & MR. & MRS. KERMIT ROOSEVELT

Theodore Roosevelt and Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Roosevelt on their arrival at Cherbourg after an extensive hunting trip in the wilds of India.



William Kevitt Manton, an actor whose wife sued him for divorce, naming Marjorie Rambeau, a stage star, as co-respondent defended the actress when he opposes the divorce. He said that he was helping Miss Rambeau to learn the lines of a new play when his wife and several others burst into the star's hotel room.



PRINCE OF WALES, WELSH

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales with his arm in a sling, at a race meeting, after his last accident, when he broke a collar-bone.



MARJORIE RAMBEAU

Marjorie Rambeau, an actress who vigorously denied the charges brought by Mrs. William Kevitt Manton that she stole her husband's love. Miss Rambeau appeared at the hearing of the Mantons' divorce case.



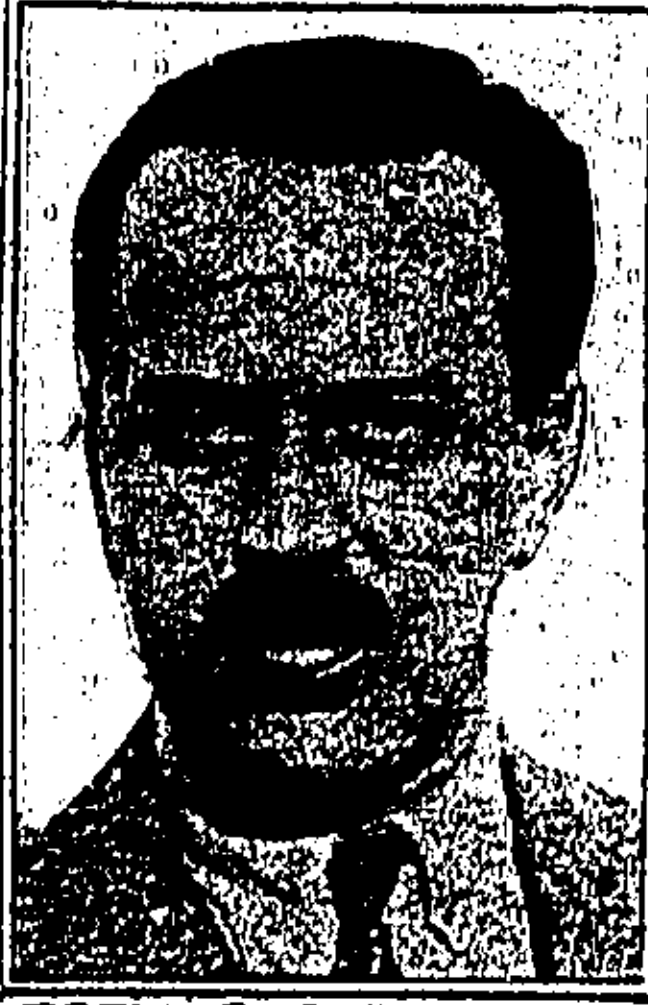
VIRGINIA SELDEN

Snubbed by society in New York and Palm Beach, hounded by detectives and threatened with deportation, Count Salm, the estranged husband of Millicent Rogers, heiress to \$15,000,000, found a friend in Miss Virginia Selden, a beautiful Washington society girl who gave an exhibition lango with the Count in one of the night clubs.



MRS. WILLIAM KEVITT MANTON

Mrs. William Kevitt Manton, who sued her husband for divorce in New York, charged him with misconduct with Marjorie Rambeau, a stage star.



PREMIER SKRZYNSKI



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT



COUNT SZECHENYI



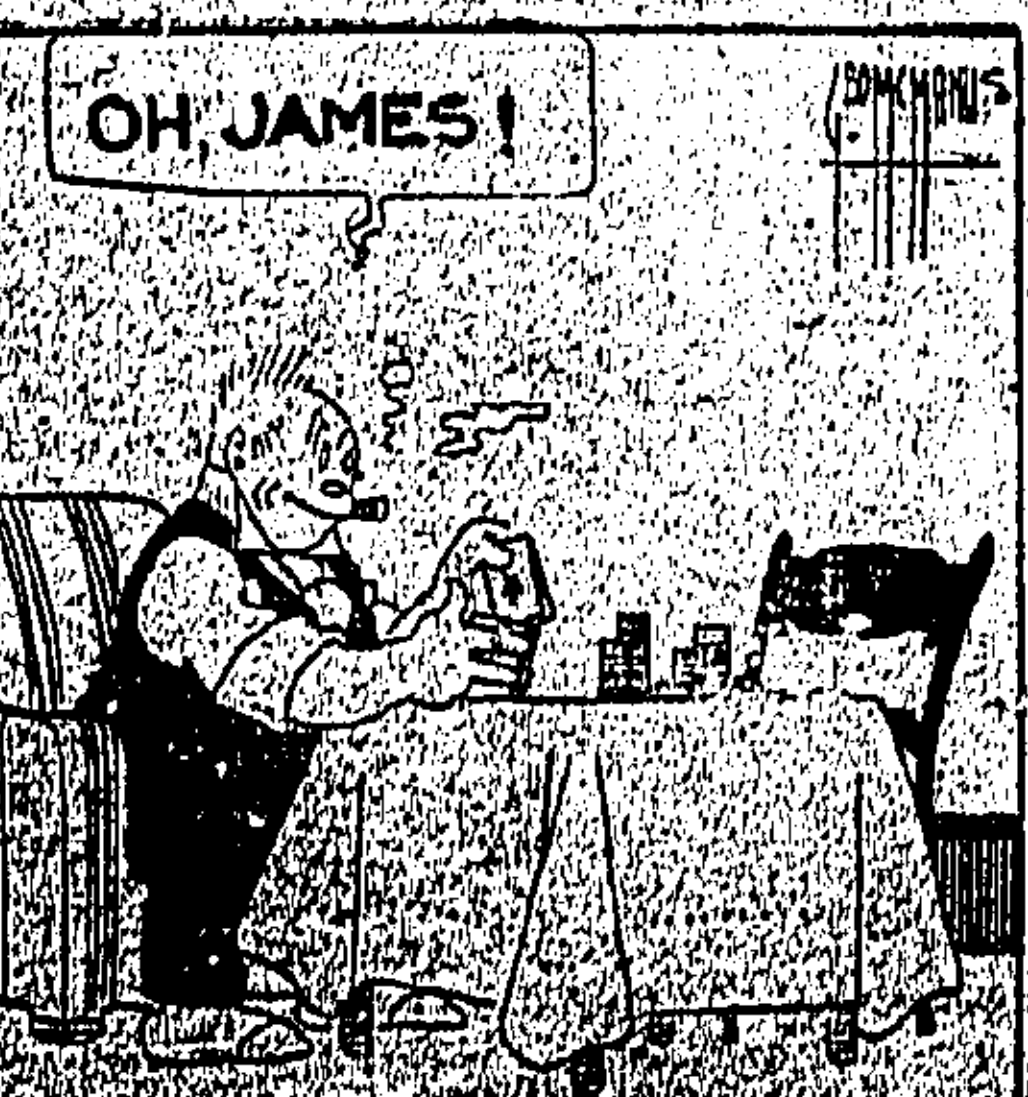
JOSEPH VERACKA

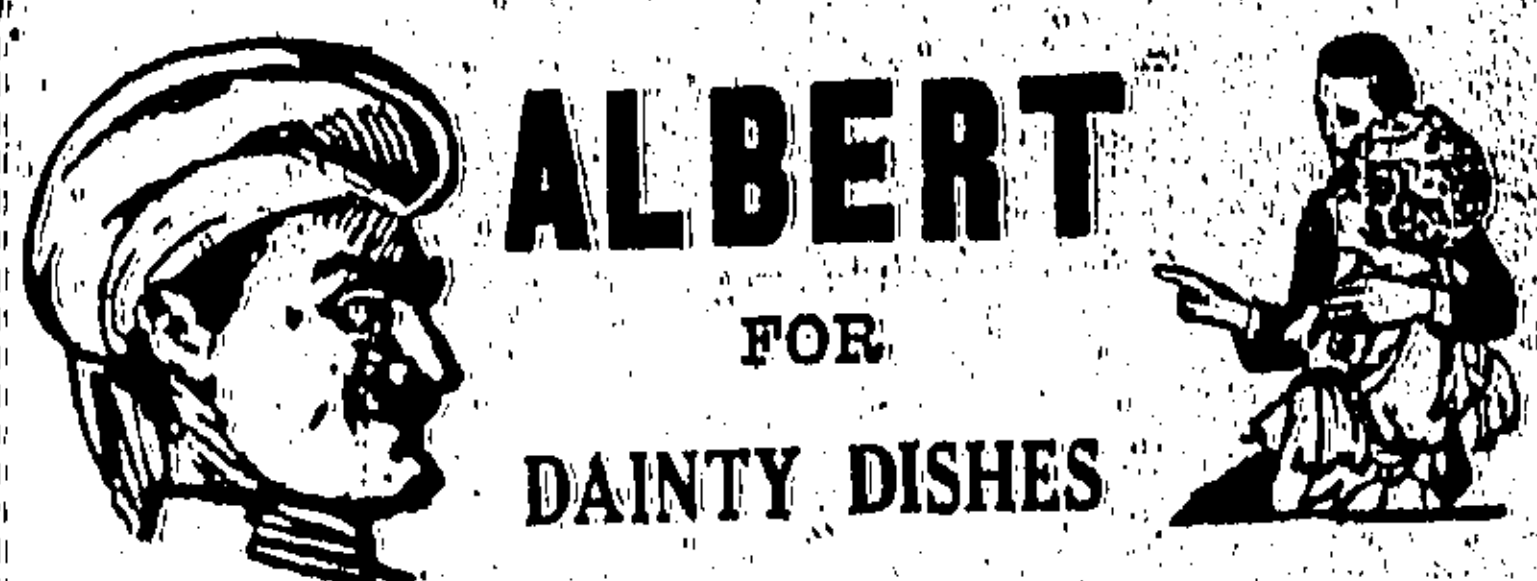
Premier Skrzynski of Poland asked that his country be given a seat on the League of Nations council when Germany's admission was mooted. Franklin D. Roosevelt looms as a possible leader of the U.S. Democratic party in the 1928 election. Count Szechenyi, the Hungarian Ambassador to the United States, was accused by Senator Wheeler with trumping up false evidence against Countess Kazolyi to keep her out of America. Joseph Veracka, prosecutor in the Bimba blasphemy trial, received several death threats, presumably from Bimba's sympathisers.

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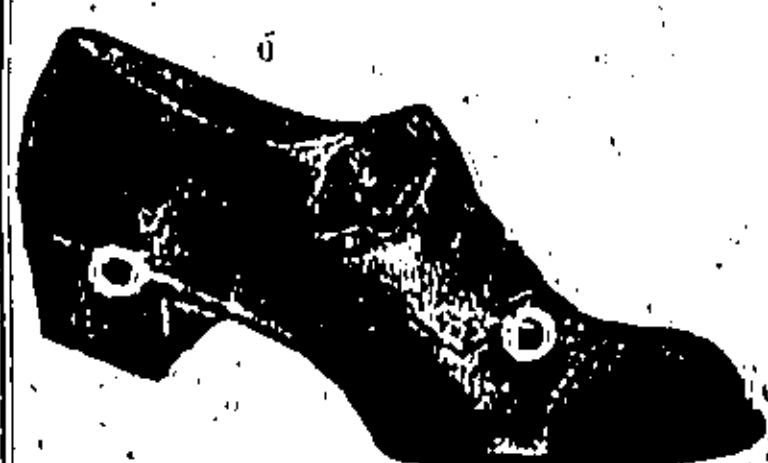
A DIALOGUE BETWEEN CONNOISSEURS

He.—Where are you going?
She.—Why, to Albert, of course, where we are sure to get the finest French Pastry and the best cooking.
He.—That is so! His French Cakes at \$1.00 per dozen, his Madeira Cakes, his Big Cakes, his Ice-Creams (combined with excellent cuisine) are made exclusively with the butter, milk and cream of the Dairy Farm Co., Ltd.
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For the information of visitors the following list of some of the highest points on the Island and mainland is published:—

Island.	Feet.
Victoria Peak	1823
Signal Station	1774
Mt. Parker	1734
Mountain Lodge	1725
The Eyrie	1725
Peak Hotel	1305
Taikoo Sanatorium	1000
Mt. Davis	877
Bowen Rd. (filterbeds)	297

Mainland.
Taimoshan 3124 || Kowloon Peak | 1971 |



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FOR CANTON.

DANISH AVIATORS MISSING HONGKONG?

DETAILS OF FLIGHT

If the Danish aviators keep to their present plans, they will be the first world fliers to omit Hongkong from their places of call, for the Spanish aviators have signified their intention of touching here if all goes well.

The Danish aviators are making for Canton as the intermediary place of call between Hanoi and Shanghai.

The flying party consists of two land machines built in Denmark and equipped with Lorraine-Dietrich 400 h.p. motors of the newest model. Two extra motors have been forwarded to Tokyo, one to Bangkok and one to Karachi.

The machines, which are marked "Denmark" R1 and R2, and furnished with the red and white insignia of the Danish flying corps, are manned by two officers, First Lieutenant Botved and First Lieutenant Harschend, and two non-commissioned officers.

The Route.
They started from Copenhagen on March 16 and took the following route: Lemberg, Constantinople, Aleppo (arrived March 22), Bagdad, Buschir, Bender, Abbas, Karachi, Agra, Calcutta (arrived March 31) to Rangoon where Lieutenant Botved landed on the 3rd inst., whilst Lieutenant Harschend is reported to have been compelled to land 28 miles from Rangoon on account of engine trouble. From Rangoon the aviators will proceed via Bangkok, Hanoi and Canton to Shanghai, and from here to Peking, Taiku and Tokyo. On the return flight, the same route will be followed.

The landing in Shanghai will take place at the Hungjiao Aerodrome and, with the permission of the Chinese authorities concerned, this is now being put in good condition to ensure the safe landing of the aviators.

Wife: "Do you know, dearest, that you haven't kissed me for a week?"
Absent-Minded Professor: "Then whom have I been kissing?"

That tea-shop waitresses are often guilty of inattention to customers was a complaint by a shareholder at the annual meeting of the Aerated Bread Company, Ltd.

"Perhaps," he suggested, "Russian boots and bobbed hair have something to do with it." His proposal that £5,000 be set aside to provide bonuses for "extra diligence" on the part of waitresses did not find any support, the chairman, Sir Charles Cottier, reminding him that commission is already granted to the assistants.

"LAKE" BOATS SOLD.

ACQUIRED BY JAPANESE INTERESTS.

SHIPPING BOARD DEAL.

A Japanese shipping concern at Nagasaki which it is stated is associated with the Kaitan Mining Federation has bought the last two steamers belonging to the U.S. Shipping Board originally sent out to China as feeders for the large steamers that the Board operated at that time in trade between America and the Far East but which, owing to the heavy draft when fully loaded, were run as independent cargo carriers between Hongkong, Indo-China, Singapore, Sumatra, Java and Borneo.

The ships in question are the "Lake Farrar" and the "Lake Onawa." The selling price is said to have been in the neighbourhood of \$120,000 (Mex.) each, the agents who effected the sale of the ships (which for the last year have been operated by the Robert Dollar Company), are Messrs. Sato & Company, of Hongkong.

The only Lake boat now left on the China Coast is the "Confucius," ex "Lake Fielding," which is of practically the same dimensions as the two above-named steamers. She is now owned by the Kwong Hong Hing Co. of Hongkong and is mostly engaged in carrying rice between Saigon and this port.

One of the curious by-products of the winding up of the Wembley Exhibition was the discovery of a hitherto unknown source of livelihood. A party of women who had been employed at the Amusement Park arrived at a Labour Exchange, where either new employment was sought, or unemployment doles were asked for. The official in charge asked what had been their duties at Wembley and was told that they were professional screamers, engaged to provoke excitement on the flip-flaps, helter-skelter, joy-wheels, roller-coasters, and various other hair-raising sources of so-called entertainment. It appears that the public likes to be coaxed into its thrills. Hence, in similar fashion to the professional theatrical clique which flourishes in Paris and the vociferous afforded several motherly-looking old people for sitting in empty rubberneck wagons in New York's Forty-second Street district, there has been a living provided at Wembley for those who would, through example, induce others to participate in the shriek-provoking enterprises set up to attract the public's six-pences.

"NICELY STAGED."

TRIBUTE TO PIRATES' INGENUITY.

"HSINKONG" INCIDENT

"The affair was very nicely staged and executed," writes a foreigner who was aboard the C.M.S. "Hsinkong" during the piracy which occurred, while she was on her last voyage from Shanghai to Canton.

His narrative, published in the "North-China Daily News," suggests, as our contemporary states, that the pirates had knowledge that a large number of rich Chinese from America were to travel by her, and for this very reason they selected the "Hsinkong" for their particular exploit.

This is by no means a wild hazard, for it is obvious that the pirate gang operating from Biax Bay is in every sense of the word a first-rate organisation, and it is only reasonable to expect that its intelligence service should be on a par with the rest of its work.

The actual physical part of the raid carried out shows careful planning inspired by bold leadership, and we may take it that every other department in the scheme is worked on what can only be described as equally efficient lines. It is impossible, comments the "North-China Daily News," to get away from the fact that the success of an organisation such as this will attract to it supporters from far and near, and in consequence such efforts as are within the power of a place like Hongkong will be absolutely nullified, in fact, there cannot but be an apprehension that the evil will spread, even beyond the bounds of China, for present-day subordinates in the pirate gang will doubtless want to set up in business for themselves, and poaching on the original preserves will not be allowed.

CONCORD.

COMMENTS ON GOVERNOR'S SUGGESTION.

SHANGHAI FEELING.

That which applies to Hongkong in the promotion or the lack of the need of concord has been anticipated here in Shanghai, states the "Shanghai Mercury." Here we have institutions where Chinese members enjoy equal privileges with the foreigners, and as clubs, the best of relationships exist.

In the Crown Colony the old spirit of conservatism persists. Still, we are glad to learn that loud applause greeted a statement made by His Excellency the Governor in the course of his address at the annual meeting of the General Chamber of Commerce recently.

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